THE TIMES

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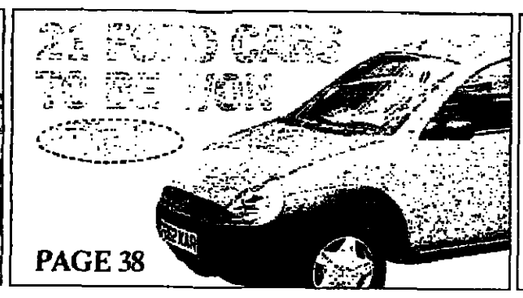

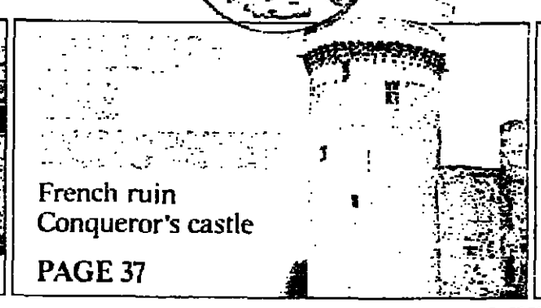

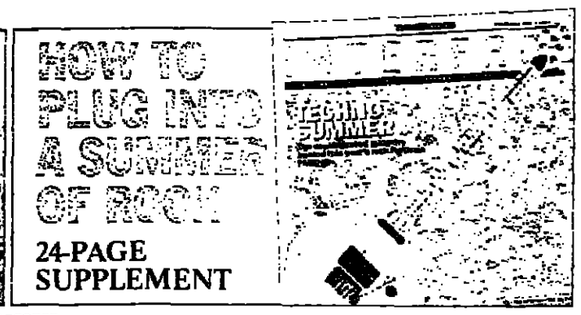

Childcare strategy is top priority

Labour gives women new political voice

BY JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

HARRIET HARMAN yesterday set out her plans to give women a more powerful voice in the corridors of power.

She is to establish special cabinet and civil service organisations to concentrate on women's issues, and promises to promote policies that will help women not only to get jobs but also to reach the top.

Her objective was to "create a bond of trust between women and government and to ensure that the Government delivers its promises", she said. But the initiative was dismissed as a gimmick by members of the last Conservative Government, who said that she was doing no more than it had done.

Ms Harman, who is both Social Security Secretary and Minister for Women, is to chair a new cabinet sub-committee for women, co-ordinating the work of all departments, and she will also see all economic and social policy papers submitted to other sub-committees to assess their impact on women.

At the same time, a women's unit is to be set up to liaise with civil servants. That will be run by Pauline Barrett, who is being recalled from the International Labour Organisation in Geneva.

The new cabinet group will include most of Labour's senior women including Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, Clare Short, Overseas Development Secretary, Tessa Jowell, Health Minister, Glenda Jackson, Transport Minister, Angela Eagle, Environment Minister, and Helen Liddle, the Treasury Minister. All are married with children apart from Ms Mowlam who is married without children and Ms Eagle, who is single. They will be joined by at least two men — probably the Welsh Minister Peter Hain, and the Scottish Minister Henry McLeish. Both have families, but they are thought to have been included simply because there are no women in their departments.

"You've already got a microwave and a dishwasher, so whatever it is, we don't need it"

Women felt disconnected from government, Ms Harman said: "New Labour is determined to have a new dialogue with women in the country — women from all walks of life and not just those on the inside track — and show that we are a government for women and men."

One of Ms Harman's first actions is likely to be an announcement this week on the splitting of pensions on divorce — which in most cases will benefit the wife. And another top priority will be to work out a national childcare strategy so that women can take up employment opportunities.

Ms Harman is expected to encourage both the Civil Service and private firms to promote female workers whenever possible — although she has not decided whether to impose artificial mechanisms such as quotas. And firms will be urged to take on more part-time workers, provide creches and be more flexible about time off. Tax incentives have not been ruled out, although they are unlikely to feature in next month's Budget.

But Cheryl Gillan, who had responsibility for women's issues in John Major's Government, claimed that there was nothing new in Ms Harman's proposals. She said the Cabinet sub-committee was identical to that set up under the Tories and that under John Major officials in every Whitehall department had responsibility for women's issues.

Ann Widdecombe, the former Home Office Minister, said: "Miss Harman seems to be unaware we also had a Cabinet sub-committee which examined all legislation for its impact on women and discussed women's issues at regular intervals. All she appears to have done is to put a couple more spokes in the wheel. I am not sure it will make the chariot go any faster."

MARK ST GEORGE

Karen Callenbach, a City trader who described yesterday how she wrestled with a man with a knife who attacked her outside her Kensington flat. "My immediate reaction was to fight," she told the Old Bailey. Court report, page 3

'Urban gorillas' are target of crackdown on speeding drivers

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

A BLITZ on speeding is being planned to curb the death toll caused by motorists driving too fast. Heavier fines, stricter enforcement of limits and better use of cameras are among moves being examined. Existing speed limits will also be reviewed.

The campaign will focus on a widespread defiance of the 30mph restriction in built-up areas to try to end the macho culture of the "urban gorilla".

The number of road deaths is falling, mainly because of less drink-driving, but the proportion of fatalities caused by speeding has risen: now there are twice as many speeding as drink-driving victims. Gavin Strang, the Transport Minister, yesterday signalled government plans to reduce the 1,200 deaths and 100,000 serious injuries caused each year by speeding motorists.

Ministers aim to make speeding as socially unacceptable as drink-driving has become, thanks to decades of rigid law enforcement and high-profile publicity. A £3.5million advertising campaign, being launched in September, will underline the dangers to children in urban areas, especially near schools where some local authorities have introduced 20mph limits.

The increasing number of parents taking part in "school runs" has raised concern that speeding has become an endemic part of life, especially among the middle classes. Government figures show driving at 40mph in a 30mph area is considered less serious than not having a television licence. However, official figures also show that while five out of ten pedestrians would die if hit by a vehicle travelling at 30mph, the number is nine out of ten at 40mph.

Ministers are understood to be concerned that inconsistent policing has encouraged drivers in some areas to believe they will not be caught. However, the Government faces pressure from police to be allowed to add an administrative levy to fines to cover the costs of targeting speeding motorists. Part of that money is needed to service speed cameras that often run out of film.

Police say that while cameras have made drivers more conscious of speed on motorways, major trunk roads and country lanes, fast driving has become more prevalent in built-up areas. The "urban gorilla" nicknamed by police, is described as a driver, most commonly male, with an "ape-like inability to understand that speed kills, especially children."

Baroness Hayman, the Road Safety Minister, meets the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents next week to discuss improvements the society has sought. David Rogers, the society's road safety advisor, said: "There is a perception that it is fine to drive at 85mph on a motorway. We need to make it known that people will be stopped and prosecuted."

The Government is resisting pressure to introduce draconian measures such as a national reduction in the speed limit, but is expected to urge police forces and highway authorities to reassess local limits to ensure they are realistic. "A limit that is perceived by motorists as being ludicrously low is less effective than one that is realistic," said a government spokesman.

"Equally there are other areas where an old speed limit is too high and might not have taken into account changing circumstances."

Dr Strang told MPs yesterday that he had no intention of bowing to pressure to raise the top motorway limit of 70mph.

Kohl yields to Bundesbank

Chancellor Helmut Kohl yielded to the Bundesbank and abandoned his plan to embellish Germany's 1997 budget by revaluing its gold.

Meanwhile Sweden said it would not embrace the euro at its launch in 1999 and John Major urged Tony Blair to tell the EU to delay monetary union ..... Pages 14, 15, 21

Ulster terrorist groups banned

The Loyalist Volunteer Force and the republican Continuity Army Council, breakaway terrorist groups, were outlawed in response to the latest upsurge in Northern Ireland violence.

Anyone convicted of membership of the 12 proscribed organisations faces a six-year jail sentence ..... Page 2

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Union strike threat by £600-a-week builders

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

PRESTIGE building projects, thought to include London's Jubilee Line extension, could be hit by strikes if building union leaders carry out the first threatened national stoppage for 25 years.

The threat came yesterday after the unions rejected a three-year pay deal offering total rises of 32 per cent. Unions refused to say which projects might be affected, but they are understood to include the Jubilee Line, the Millennium project at Greenwich, the £100 million renewal of the Royal Opera House and the controversial Newbury bypass.

Strike action is likely to be concentrated in London and the South East because of skill shortages. Steel fixers are now paid up to £600 a week and bricklayers up to £400.

Allan Black, national construction secretary of the GMB general union, said yesterday: "We are sleepwalking towards industrial action." The last national strike in the building industry was in 1973.

Pay rates in the national agreement covering construction had become all but detached from real pay levels in the industry, and employers sought to reach a comprehensive agreement more closely in line with actual pay and conditions on sites.

The move coincided with a new push by the Inland Revenue in the construction industry. As a result, many building workers are moving from bogus self-employment back into full-time work taxed at normal rates, which for some has meant a 23 per cent pay cut as they moved back into the tax net.

Building employers originally offered a four-year deal, which with consolidation of bonus payments would have given overall rises, by the end, of 45 per cent.

But the unions rejected this, and employers then came forward with a complex package which would have raised the current hourly craft rate in stages from £4.58 to £6.05. The employers also want an agreement to opt-out from the provisions of the European working time directive.

Malcolm Fordy, for the employers, said: "The proposals put forward were a wide-ranging, positive and constructive response to the unions."

No further meetings have been arranged. The industry's present agreement, including pay rates dating back to May 1996, will continue in force until there is a new deal.

Labour MPs want fox-hunting vote

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

LABOUR's new MPs flexed their muscles for the first time yesterday by tabling a demand for an immediate ban on fox-hunting.

Some 120 MPs, many of them newly-elected, added to the pressure on the Government to allow time for a vote on the issue, something that it is reluctant to grant so early in the Parliament when it is fully occupied with a heavy legislative load. They signed a Commons motion saying that the case against hunting with hounds "has been proven on scientific, ecological and moral grounds".

There could be no justification for continuing the sport and the motion "therefore calls for the immediate outlawing of hunting wild animals with hounds."

The move could embarrass the Government. Although a Bill banning hunting would easily get through the Commons there could be a prolonged confrontation in the Lords, which ministers want to avoid at this stage. They do not regard banning hunting as a priority and some senior figures in the Labour leadership actively oppose it.

Among the signatories of the motion is Michael Foster, MP for Worcester, who came top in the backbenchers' ballot benchers to introduce their own Private Member's Bill. He has still not decided whether to choose such a controversial issue and the whips have tried to dissuade him from doing so.

Labour has promised a free vote on such a Bill and Ministers admit privately that it would be hard to resist the clamour for parliamentary time to consider fox-hunting in view of the likely level of support for a ban.

Obsessive training knocks wind out of Gale Force

BY SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT

THE British super-featherweight boxing champion P.J. Gallagher, known as "Gale Force", turned into a gentle breeze when he overdid his training.

So addicted did he become to exercise that he even got up at dead of night to go running, apparently while still in his sleep. Several times his girlfriend Natasha found him slipping out of bed at night and getting into his tracksuit to go running. She had to lock him in.

Far from making him stronger and fitter, the training made him weak. Gallagher's condition became known only last February when, after three hard fights, he was beaten by Bamana Dibateza of Zaire, a journeyman boxer, who ended his unbeaten run of 16 contests.

"He kept all this quiet and told us about it after that shock loss," Frank Maloney, his trainer, said. "It wasn't a gale force in the ring that night. I told him, 'If you can't beat this guy, you haven't got a future, P.J.'. Then he tells us about this mystery illness."

Tests showed that his levels of the male sex hormone testosterone had dropped well below normal. Dr David Walsh, the British Boxing Board of Control sports medicine expert, put it down to over-exertion. Gallagher may have been suffering from "jogger's high". Some sports doctors believe that this can be caused by the body producing natural painkillers, or endorphins, which are chemically similar to morphine. People become addicted to the sensation they produce and work harder to achieve it.

"I should have listened to my trainer," admits Gallagher. "I became a trainaholic." After a three-month lay-off, his testosterone is back to normal.

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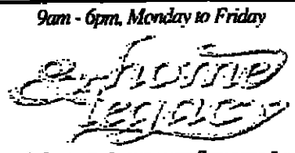

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Morbid fascination of ghost dances with wolves

MATTHEW PARRIS

POLITICAL SKETCH

COUNT DRACULA, hearing wolves howl, remarked: "Listen to the creatures of the night! What music they make!" To witness *Donald Dewar and Michael Howard* — dark and unsmiling — circling each other with bared teeth, and *duelling with stealth and* eloquence, was to experience in all its mystery the music of the creatures of the night.

Is there a subliminal message behind the pronunciation Miss Boothroyd has adopted for the Scottish Secretary's name? Yesterday she called him "Mr Dour". Truly there is nobody more dour on the Labour Front Bench. Tall, stooped, hand-wringing, gloomy of countenance and mordant of wit, Donald Dewar contrives a blend of anxiety and solemnity, like a funeral director on the verge of bankruptcy.

In his sombre way he also possesses *an acid brilliance* as a Commons speaker. Yesterday the Scottish Secretary offered a display *of his mastery at the Dispatch box*, in combat with the Tory leadership contender, Michael Howard. There is, as has been observed, something of the night about Mr Howard.

This, then, was a minuet of ghouls. The spat was important for both. Dewar's referendums on devolution depend on the "guillotine" motion he moved. Howard's prospects depend on his performance in the days left before his party's leadership contest: he was auditioning for Leader of the Opposition. *Donald Dewar's spoken* English is a pleasure to encounter and must be a joy for *Hansard writers to take down. Without notes* he delivers the sort of polished constructions that would be other people's third drafts. To write, in measured prose, "there has been an organised attempt — perfectly legitimately undertaken but equally legitimately met — to obstruct ..." might not be exceptional. But to *talk* like that off the cuff, as Dewar did, impresses.

Ready on the Front Bench, Michael Howard does not sit: he crouches, waiting to spring. His *text was carefully drafted* and neatly typed. Comparing the Prime Minister with the young Robespierre ("*who also had a fondness* for the guillotine") he accused the Government of "contempt for decency, for debate, for Parliament itself". Mr Howard speaks silkily and with great poise, but there is something in the catlike pleasure he takes in debate that always — even in moments of tension and anger — hints at the game.

Mr Howard's speech was immaculate in everything but its ability to convince us that he would not, himself, try the same tricks as those of which he was accusing Labour. Sir Norman Fowler (C, Sutton Coldfield), a former Cabinet Minister and party chairman who spoke afterwards, was less smooth; yet somehow you believed him.

Polish in politics can be scary: a rough edge can reassure. Angela Eagle, a new junior environment *minister making her debut* at the dispatch box yesterday, probably won more friends with one stumble than with a stream of *Civil Service* jargon. She was answering a question about biodiversity. Losing her notes, she *stammered*: "It relates to ... er ...

"Birds?" shouted a Tory wag.

"No, no, *not* birds!" said Ms Eagle, flustered. "Er ... sea horses!"

Later came a maiden speech from the MP for Conwy, a scarlet-clad Betty Williams. The beauty of Conwy invited "superlatives I may not have mastered in the English language, rather than my native Welsh". Mrs Williams, who made Llandudno sound like Eden, was *more eloquent than she pretended*.

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Leading article, page 21

Mowlam outlaws terror groups as Ulster talks resume

BY NICHOLAS WATT, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

TWO breakaway terrorist *groups that have launched* sectarian attacks in Northern Ireland were outlawed last *night by the Government* as it stepped up its response to the upsurge in violence.

The Loyalist Volunteer Force and the republican Continuity Army Council were *added to the list of ten pro*scribed terrorist organisations by Mo Mowlam, the Northern *Ireland Secretary*. Her decision means that anyone convicted of membership of one of *the organisations* could face a six-year jail sentence.

The crackdown on the ter*rorists came as the multiparty* talks at Stormont resumed after a two-month break for *the general and local elections*. The opening session at the Stormont Castle Buildings *heard strong condemnations* of the recent wave of sectarian attacks, some of which were *launched by the two newly* proscribed groups.

The LVF was blamed for *last month's sectarian murder* of Sean Brown, a respected Catholic training officer from *Bellaghy, Co Londonderry*, and for planting a bomb in Dundalk, Co Louth, in the *Irish Republic last month. The* group was formed this year by associates of Billy Wright, the hardliner expelled by the Ulster Volunteer Force last year *after he voiced opposition* to the loyalist ceasefire. Wright was jailed for eight years in *March for threatening to* kill a woman.

Although the CAC has been *less active in recent months*, its members have shown a lethal capability. Last July, at the *height of the disturbances* during the marching season, the CAC devastated the Killyhevlin Hotel in Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh, with a massive bomb. The group calls itself the Continuity Army Council because its members believe they are the true representatives of the original IRA. The CAC is the terrorist wing of Republican Sinn Fein, which split from *Sinn Fein in 1986*.

The decision to ban the LVF and the CAC came after *lengthy deliberations between* the Northern Ireland Office and the security forces. Dr Mowlam took her time because officials warned her that banning the groups could add to their *status among* hardliners.

Dr Mowlam pressed ahead *with the search for peace* yesterday by insisting that the Stormont talks must move on to susbstantive political negotiations within weeks. In a tough address to the first session, she said a formula must be found to resolve the divisive issue of disarming terrorists, which has stalled the talks since they opened last June.

Dr Mowlam said: "If the talks do not move on to the substantive issues in the near *future they* will lose credibility and defer — and perhaps lose — the best opportunity for a generation of securing a widely acceptable political accommodation."

Dick Spring, Ireland's Deputy Prime Minister, echoed *her remarks*, saying the talks were reaching a defining moment. He described the first *year of discussions* as a "deeply disillusioning spectacle for the public".

*The British and Irish gov*ernments are exasperated that the talks have made so little progress since they opened 51 weeks ago. It is expected that officials will draw up a paper to try to resolve the arms issue so that talks can move on to wider negotiations on areas such as relations between Northern Ireland and the Republic.

The strong stance by Dr Mowlam and Mr Spring was welcomed by John Hume, leader of the SDLP, who wants the arms issue to be dealt with in parallel with discussions on substantive issues. However Unionists insist that the IRA must begin to decommission its arms before Sinn Fein can join full talks. Sinn Fein, which staged a publicity stunt outside the talks yesterday, will be excluded until the IRA declares an unequivocal ceasefire.

Before addressing the talks Dr Mowlam clashed with the chairman of the Police Federation in Northern Ireland over reforms to the RUC. Les Rodgers told Dr Mowlam that "you had hardly time to warm your new seat at Stormont Castle" when she said that reform was a priority. Mr Rodgers said the federation accepted that the police should adjust to changing times but he said critics of the RUC wanted to abolish the force.

Simon Jenkins, page 20

Roisin McAliskey, the IRA suspect, has postnatal depression and is to be transferred to a specialist hospital unit. A statement from the Whittington Hospital in north London and Ms McAliskey's family said she and her baby, Loinnir, would remain at the unit until she was medically fit to be discharged, and at that time the court would reconsider the case. Mr Justice Butterfield varied the terms of Ms McAliskey's bail at a private hearing in the High Court yesterday. She is fighting extradition to Germany, where she is wanted in connection with an IRA bomb attack on a British army base last summer.

Gerry Adams and Pat Doherty of Sinn Fein outside Stormont after the start of multiparty talks yesterday

Lottery chiefs may resign over order on bonuses

BY OLIVER AUGUST AND CAROL MIDGLEY

THE *directors of Camelot* may resign after being ordered to hand back their *bonuses by the Heritage Sec*retary, Chris Smith, it was claimed yesterday.

Jeremy Marshall, a Camelot board member, said his fellow directors could leave for *better-paid jobs elsewhere*. Mr Marshall, who is also chief executive of De La Rue, the *company that prints the Na*tional Lottery tickets, added: "Tim Holley [the Camelot *chief executive] only earned* £75,000 more than expected under the original business *plan, while the Treasury got* £400 million more. There is every chance he will leave."

Mr Holley "would be very difficult to replace," said Mr Marshall, who is an unpaid Camelot non-executive director but earned £570,000 at De La Rue last year.

Mr Marshall spoke as Mr Holley and three other directors were taking legal advice *over whether to surrender* their pay bonuses to charity. Camelot appeared defiant, *dismissing Mr Smith's claim* that it was destroying public confidence in the lottery and declaring it had received only three complaints from the public about pay.

The directors, who received pay increases of up to 90 per cent, were yesterday consulting a *team of seven in-house* experts at Camelot headed by the corporate services director *Gill Switalasi over whether to* defy the ultimatum to hand over the cash — about £1 *million — by Friday. Insiders* said the men were not minded to comply because they were *abiding by the terms of their* contracts.

Two of the directors, Peter Murphy, the Camelot finance director, and David Rigg, the communications director, are former De La Rue employees. Mr Marshall said: "Both are extremely good at their jobs. *They could demand at least* those sort of salaries outside Camelot. The fear is that we *will lose them*."

De La Rue holds a 22.5 per cent stake in Camelot and received £16 million in profit from the lottery operator last year, it reported yesterday. De *La Rue, a world leader in* security and bank note printing, is responsible for Came*lot's ticket paper and printing*.

Another Camelot shareholder also stepped into the *row yesterday. Racal, the elec*tronics specialist which owns 22.5 per cent of Camelot, said *the dispute was* "embarrassing".

Sir Ernest Harrison, the 71-*year-old company chairman*, threatened Racal could withdraw from Camelot if Labour *made it into a "non-profit* making organisation". De La Rue refused to rule out a similar move.

Business, pages 26-33

Estate agents given warning as property market recovers

BY EMMA WILKINS

ESTATE agents who use sharp practices to exploit clients in the current buoyant property market were threatened yesterday with lifetime bans.

John Bridgeman, Director-General of Fair Trading, said he would not hesitate to use his powers to issue prohibition orders against unscrupulous agents. The warning comes as the housing market continues to recover *with prices on* average 10 per cent higher across Britain than a year ago. *The recovery in London has* been particularly dramatic with some prime areas seeing *price increases of up to 14.5 per* cent in three months.

As parts of the capital experience chronic shortages of available properties, some agents have been exploiting desperate buyers, according to the Office of Fair Trading.

Mr Bridgeman said cases had been reported recently of estate agents taking fees from buyers to "ring-fence" particular properties and not pass other offers to the vendor. That amounted to making a secret profit, he said.

Under the *Estate Agents* Act, the OFT director-general has the power to ban agents *from practising* and can remove their consumer credit licences if they engage in improper, unfair, deceitful or oppressive practices. "I will not hesitate to use these powers where I find they have led to consumer detriment," Mr Bridgeman said.

Since 1979, when the Estate Agents Act was passed, 237 estate agents have been banned from practising. In 1995, nine estate agents received lifetime bans compared with 17 at the height of the property boom in 1989.

House prices across Britain rose by 1.2 per cent in May and *were now 10 per cent* higher than a year ago, according to Nationwide Build*ing Society. In some parts of* London prices have risen by 50 per cent over the past 18 *months, fuelled* by big City bonuses and investment from the Far East.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Woodhead gets full backing of No 10

Tony Blair gave Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, a public vote of confidence yesterday, inviting him to Downing Street to assure him that he had the Government's full backing in raising school standards.

Their hour-long meeting, attended also by David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, was Mr Blair's warning to teacher unions that he would override their opposition to Mr Woodhead.

Last week the National Association of Head Teachers' conference passed a vote of no confidence in the chief inspector.

Rover scraps ad

The Rover car company has withdrawn a television advertisement featuring a blindfolded hostage being rescued after a diplomatic exchange in a barren landscape. Rover said it and the Independent Television Commission had received complaints about the appropriateness of the advertisement at a time of hostage tension involving Britons. Rover apologised for any offence it had caused.

Kids go to No 10

Cherie Blair is to mark *Budget day by opening up* the garden of 10 Downing Street to youngsters from the Kids' Club Network, which organises after-school activities for the children of work*ing parents. The Prime* Minister's wife has also taken the lead in ensuring that *Downing Street's block of* tickets for the annual Trooping the Colour ceremony will go *to disabled young people*.

Harrier jet escape

An RAF pilot ejected to safety before the Harrier jet he was flying crashed in the Scottish borders. The jet came down in woods five miles southeast of Newton Stewart, Dumfries and Galloway. The pilot, who was on a routine training flight, was able to walk to a nearby farmhouse. Another Harrier pilot ejected to safety two weeks ago when his plane crashed near RAF Wittering, Cambridgeshire.

Nuclear des res

A fire authority is to reap an unexpected peace dividend as a result of the ending of the Cold War by selling a bunker which was originally designated a nuclear war control centre. West Midlands Fire and Civil Defence Authority hope that the concrete building, which has no natural light or heat, will fetch at least £100,000 because of its location in popular Sutton Coldfield.

Jurassic tape find

A pirate master tape of the Steven Spielberg film *Jurassic Park, The Lost World*, worth an estimated £1 million on the black market, has been seized by customs officers. Two Scotsmen were intercepted at Glasgow Airport carrying the tape, along with pirate copies of five other American films. The film is not due for general release in Britain until July 18.

Airship lifts off

The RAC airship, *Spirit of Mobility*, which will advertise the motoring organisation's presence above British skies this summer, set off on its maiden voyage over Bristol. It will appear over major events, including the Henley Royal Regatta and the British Grand Prix at Silverstone, and will be used to spot traffic blackspots and relay pictures to the ground.

Exam abandoned

An exam being taken by 200 *students was halted* after 15 minutes yesterday because the answers were written on *the back of test papers*. It would have provided 60 per cent of marks for a first-year *information technology* course at the London School of Economics, but course work or an assignment to be completed away from the college will now be marked.

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Speculation over accommodation '100% wrong'

American curator pulls out of Ashmolean job

By Tunku Varadarajan and Dalya Alberge

A LEADING American curator has turned down the directorship of the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford five months after formally accepting the post.

The city and and the art world were yesterday rife with speculation as to why Dr George Goldner had changed his mind so suddenly. It was suggested that he had been dismayed to discover that accommodation was not included in the £42,000-a-year post. However, Dr Goldner said that was "100 per cent wrong".

"The decision to turn the Oxford job down, and to remain in New York, had absolutely nothing to do with flats and homes and apartments," he said. Finding a suitable home had proved difficult, but no more so than locating one in London or New York or any other desirable city.

The actual reason, he explained, was that he and his wife realised how much he was enjoying New York and his job as senior curator at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art. "We both love New York and we want to spend the rest of our careers here. At the end of the day we realised our hearts were not really in it. We never intended this decision to be a slight against Oxford. We just want to stay here in New York."

Dr Goldner, 54, added: "Naturally, I wish I had taken things more fully into account in November, when I said yes to Oxford. I'm sorry if I've caused the Ashmolean any dislocation, but they know that I accepted in good faith. Now I realise it was a mistake. Isn't it better to say so clearly than to go and live in a place where you'd rather not be?"

It was also suggested that his wife, Nancy Krieg, a successful art restorer, felt her business would suffer.

George Goldner, left, who says he will not now be succeeding Christopher White at the Oxford museum

Dr Goldner, aggressive, articulate and feisty, is widely regarded as one of the most successful curators in America; his eye for quality is widely appreciated. He is a man of considerable private means, a classical style, and boasts an impressive personal collection of Old Masters. His appointment as Director of the Ashmolean last year was hailed as a coup in Britain.

Oxford estate agents were reported to have been asked by Dr Goldner to send him details of properties worth up to £750,000 and within walking distance of the museum. Only a handful met the requirements of he and his wife, who until last year lived in a Park Avenue apartment formerly owned by Diana Vreeland, the fabled editor of *Vogue*.

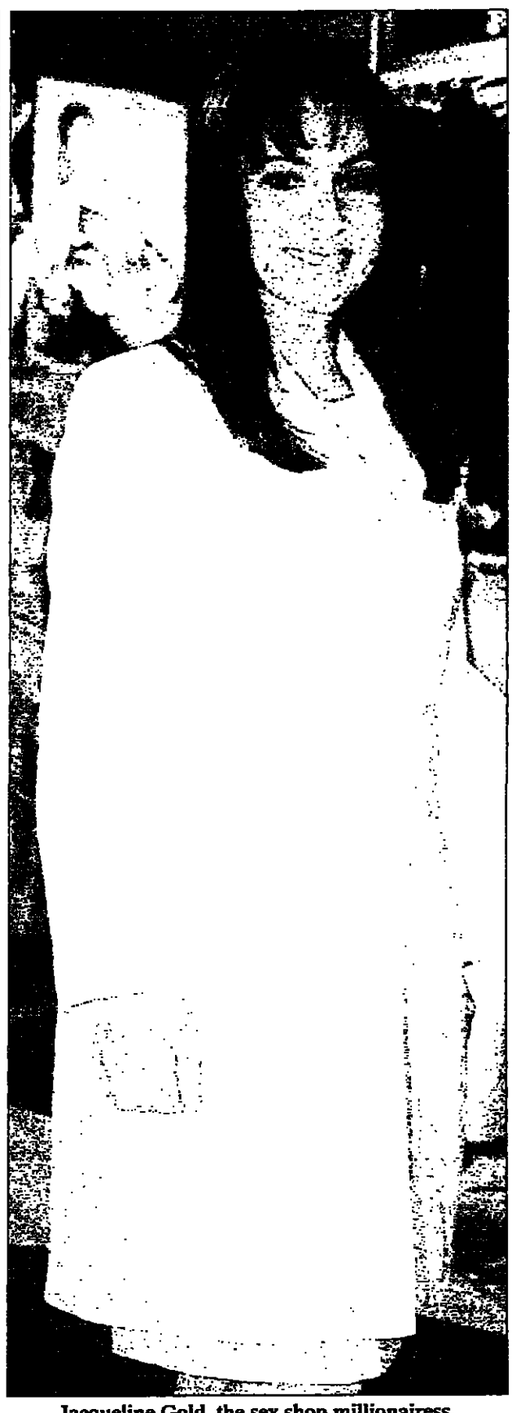
Dr Goldner was appointed last autumn in a blaze of publicity as the man to take over from Professor Christopher White, who is retiring after 12 years. He would have been responsible for works by such masters as Holbein, Rembrandt, Van Gogh, and Picasso housed in the 17th century museum.

Oxford University, which owns the Ashmolean, said that Dr Goldner had cited "personal reasons" for pulling out. Jill Sanders, spokeswoman for the university, said: "We are obviously disappointed but we have to respect his decision. It's not an embarrassing situation. We felt he was the best man for the job but these things happen and it must be for a very good reason. We are now taking steps to consider who to appoint in his place."

Observers in New York's byzantine art world, however, have their own interpretations. A senior figure said yesterday that he was "not in the least surprised" by Dr Goldner's decision. He asserted: "Look, Goldner acquires. He buys paintings and drawings. He lives for that. What would he have acquired at the Ashmolean? Nothing, except perhaps some Oxford dust. Reaching out to students is not really his thing. It's quite curious that he should even have considered the Ashmolean in the first place"

Another observer suggested that Dr Goldner lost interest in the Ashmolean last month when it was rumoured that John Walsh, currently Director of the J. Paul Getty Museum in California, would be moving to the Frick Museum in New York. Dr Goldner, who was at the Getty before he moved to the Met in 1993 (leaving his heart behind, many believe), is known to be keen to take on the glamorous role of director at his curatorial "alma mater".

Dr Goldner's Oxford salary — pegged to the university's fixed professorial scale — is appreciably less than the amount he is thought to be paid by the Met. Although the New York museum declined to disclose figures, experts suggest that he is likely to be getting somewhere between $150,000 and $200,000 a year (£90,000-£120,000). He was, after all, lured over from the Getty Museum, which is a lavish paymaster.



Jacqueline Gold, the sex shop millionairess, demanded harsher penalties against stalkers

Phone stalker plagued Ann Summers chief

By Stephen Farrell

THE millionairess managing director of the Ann Summers sex shop empire demanded harsher penalties for telephone stalkers yesterday after an obsessed young man who waged a three-month campaign against her walked free from court.

Jacqueline Gold received dozens of calls on her office and mobile phones from Dean Bentley, 21. He rang from a village call box, falsely claiming that Ms Gold's boyfriend had paid his fictitious, drug-dealing brother to "get her".

Bentley, from Heighington, Lincolnshire, even asked a friend to fake a knife attack on the 35-year-old businesswoman so he could come to the rescue "like a knight in shining armour", Lincoln Magistrates' Court was told.

Ms Gold at first dismissed him as a crank caller but became frightened after Bentley's mother Olwen, 64, called warning her to take the threat seriously. It later emerged that Bentley travelled 200 miles to stake out her home in Caterham, Surrey, after finding her address on the electoral register.

Sue Holden, for the prosecution, told the court: "This relates to what can only be described as a campaign of stalking by telephone."

Bentley, she said, first became obsessed in October last year after reading a newspaper article about Ms Gold.

Bentley, said by his solicitor to be "living in a dream world", admitted one charge of malicious communication by sending a threatening letter and four charges of improper use of a telephone by making menacing telephone calls. His mother admitted two charges of improper use of a telephone.

He was sentenced to two years' probation for the letter, with two years' probation and 100 hours' community service for the menacing calls. He was also ordered to pay £100 compensation and to live at a bail hostel. Mrs Bentley was conditionally discharged and ordered to pay £100 compensation.

Ms Gold built Ann Summers into a company with an annual turnover of £40 million after taking it over from her father at the age of 20. She conceived the idea of saleswomen promoting lingerie parties in customers' houses. She was not in court to hear the verdicts but said in a statement: "Naturally I am relieved that the long ordeal is over, but I am very disappointed that the sentence has seemingly ruled in favour of the defendants. After invading my life over three months they are all but forgiven by the courts, which I feel is very unjust."

Bentley: lived in fantasy world, court was told

She said she had written to several MPs and would campaign for stiffer legislation on stalking.

"I have been very fortunate because of my business profile in that I have had unswerving support from Scotland Yard. How many thousands of women and men over the years have suffered from this life-changing situation and do not feel safe enough to come forward?"

City trader tells how she drove off armed attacker

By Daniel McGrory

WHEN an intruder armed with a knife grabbed her around the throat as she arrived home from work City trader Karen Callenbach's only thought was to stop him forcing her inside her flat.

She could see the knife in his hand as her assailant clamped his hand over her mouth and pushed his way in, a court was told yesterday.

But Miss Callenbach, who is 5ft 6in tall, kept her nerve. Forced into the hallway of her Kensington basement flat, she began to fight back. "My immediate reaction was to fight. I just couldn't believe someone was doing this," she told an Old Bailey jury.

First she prised his hand from her mouth. Gripping the hand that held the knife, she edged her startled attacker back through the open front door and tumbled into the street. "I was looking him straight in the eye," she said.

Her retaliation stunned the intruder: fearful of further punishment, he turned and ran but was caught by a passing police officer.

Yesterday Miss Callenbach, 28, who works for the investment bank J.P. Morgan, calmly described the evening last September as she walked from the Underground Station to her home. She heard footsteps behind her as she turned the keys in the front door. "I went to close the door, but did not do so in time," she said. The next moment Adrian Rajaratnam, 25, charged down the steps behind her and barged against the front door. "He managed to push it open and came straight through.

"As he did that he grabbed me around my face and put his hand over my mouth, pulling me backwards. In his other hand he had some sort of knife. Twice he whispered in my ear: 'Don't scream'.

She remembers sizing up her attacker and realising he was not much bigger than her. "I was struggling to get back outside the flat because I did not want him to close the door with me inside. As I fought I was able to struggle and as he tried to pull me his hand came away from my mouth. He suddenly seemed to loosen his hold and I managed to push the door open."

Rajaratnam, of Welling southeast London, denies assault, false imprisonment and possessing an offensive weapon. The trial continues.

Polar pair head for hot baths and beer

By Robin Young

THE first British adventurers to reach the North Pole without back-up support were airlifted from the ice yesterday.

Dr Stephen Martin, 41, from Ashbourne, Derbyshire, and David Mitchell, 34, a climber and electrician from Wasdale, Cumbria, enjoyed their first hot bath, clean clothes and beer since setting off from the Siberian coast 93 days ago, on March 3.

They covered more than 1,200 miles in 92 days, carrying all their supplies and equipment over cracking ice in temperatures of minus 50C.

After their triumphant arrival at the North Pole on Monday, they were picked off the ice yesterday and flown five hours to Eureka, a scientific monitoring station 600 miles away. After washing, eating and sleeping they set off again to fly to Resolute Bay in Canada, where they were expected to arrive at midnight last night. They are due to fly home next week.

Laurence Howell, the expedition's communications and safety officer, said: "Both men are extremely happy to get as far as they did. They really did this for themselves, not for any record or fame."

Who can expect Europeans to speak with one voice?

By Alan Hamilton

WITH the road towards a single European currency appearing to become ever rockier, what hope could there possibly be for a single European language?

The difficulties have not deterred Riccardo Nencini, an Italian socialist MEP, from suggesting to the European Commission that it looks into a common Euro-language as the ultimate expression of integration. Graciously, he does not suggest that we should all speak Italian.

Had the suggestion come from a Frenchman, it might not have been quite so gracious. Indeed, in a separate written question to the EC Pervenche Beres, a French socialist MEP, has complained that there is far too much use of English.

The Italian submission does not suggest which tongue should become the *lingua franca* of Europe. But Signor Nencini points out: "Given that specific language characteristics need to be safeguarded, including dialect forms, and given also that the process of European integration is forging ahead and that the adoption of a common language would help bring about a more cohesive Europe, does the Commission not believe that it should mount a campaign directed at the member states to achieve this goal?"

His question is wordy enough in English. It is unlikely it would be clearer in any of the Union's other native languages. Portuguese? That is only understood by the Portuguese, Brazilians and residents of Goa. Finnish? So impenetrable that the word for "taxi" seems to take up most of the side of the car. Esperanto? Never really caught on.

The natural contender is English, but the proposal would undoubtedly receive a resounding *non* from Paris. Mme Beres says the Commission is already favouring English far too much. For example, she says, when companies tender for EU research projects, briefings by experts are usually only in English.

The Commission is still considering its response to both questions. Meanwhile it could usefully contemplate using the common language of the last European union.

Latin might struggle a little to cope with the technical terms of the microcircuit age, but then so do Portugese, Finnish, Esperanto and the rest. And as for Mme Beres, the French for microcircuit is *microcircuit*.

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2. Can the account be closed at any time without any penalty?
3. Is your top rate account instant access with no loss of interest?
4. If you launched a similar account that paid a better rate, would you offer to transfer existing accounts into it?

Here's who else did.

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هكذا من الاصل

Cancer research to benefit from sale of 47 volumes filled with 20,000 autographs

Legacy of man who signed up all the big names of our time

By Damian Whitworth

LIONEL WOLFE spent more than 60 years hanging around stage doors and slipping past security men in dogged pursuit of famous people. He was undiscriminating in his prey, dedicating his life to chasing actresses, musicians and politicians with equal determination. The result of his obsession was some of the most extraordinary autograph books ever compiled.

Mr Wolfe trailed every famous name that came to London and insisted on meeting them face to face before they signed his book. He filled 47 volumes with 20,000 autographs during 64 tireless years, creating a comprehensive who's who of much of the century. Now they are being sold.

Mr Wolfe was killed, aged 80, when he was hit by a car near his north London home earlier this year — on the way to secure yet another signature. Mavis Davis, his sister-in-law, said: "He was on his way to one of the theatres to get an actress. I don't know which one. At least he was doing the thing that he loved most."

Signatures of personalities as diverse as Winston Churchill, the Windsors, Aldous Huxley, Igor Stravinski, Margaret Thatcher, Cassius Clay, The Beatles, Laurel and Hardy and Marilyn Monroe are there. The catalogue goes on with the Dalai Lama, Don Bradman, Eric Cantona and Chuck Berry, Benjamin Britten, Edith Sitwell and the Kennedys.

The books, packed with Mr Wolfe's own sketches of the people he met, are to be sold, as he wished, to raise money to fight cancer, which killed his wife a decade ago. Phillips expects them to make more than £4,000. The signatures themselves are not valuable but, unusually for autograph books, they attracted the interest of auctioneers because of the extent of the collection.

"Normally autograph books are at the bottom of the pecking order," said Felix Pryor, the Phillips manuscript consultant. "They are terribly boring things for everyone except the person who has had fun collecting them. But this was done to such a mad, extravagant extent. He dedicated his life to these books and they are compulsive reading."

Mr Wolfe embarked on his life's work aged 16, when his father gave him his first autograph book. One of the early signatories was the great conductor Toscanini, who was waylaid leaving a concert. Mr Wolfe's grandfather had been a violinist and the teenager, showing the conductor his sketch of him, piped up: "Sir, my grandfather played under Wagner's baton 60 years ago, won't you sign this?" Toscanini took the youngster to his hotel, wrote down three bars of Beethoven's 9th, signed it, and thus inspired the next six decades of Mr Wolfe's quest.

Lionel Wolfe: dedicated his life to autograph-hunting

In 1952, Mr Wolfe, who worked for a grocer in Piccadilly, explained to the *Sunday Dispatch* that he insisted on meeting everyone who signed in person and just waited until they came to the capital. "Everybody famous comes to London eventually," he said. He would prowl the West End, staking out stage doors, lie in wait at BBC headquarters and patrol Lord's, Wimbledon, race tracks and prize fights. He had tea with Boris Karloff and once broke through a police cordon to get George Bernard Shaw's autograph.

He was not deflected by those who declined to co-operate. He finally succeeded with H.G. Wells on the tenth attempt when the writer's arm was in a sling. "How can I sign anything?" retorted Wells. "You can write with your left," chided a female companion and finally he consented, writing his signature backwards.

Miss Davis admits he was obsessed. "It was quite a lifetime's achievement. The unique thing is that he met every single person. He always waited for them to come to London. His two regrets were that he never met Mother Teresa or Elvis Presley."

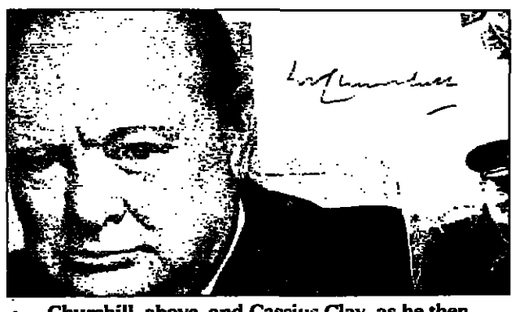
Bardot was among those who gave her name

Saturday in THE TIMES

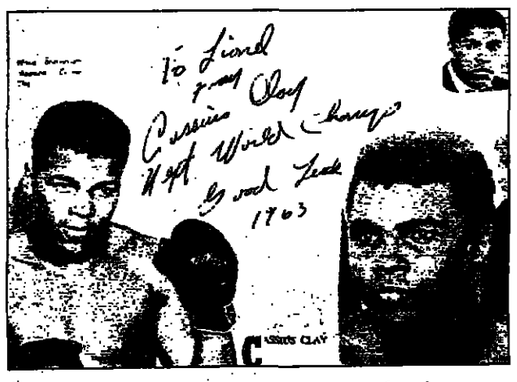
The best 100 summer wines

The 100 greatest cricketers of all time

in the Magazine



Churchill, above, and Cassius Clay, as he then was, both succumbed to Mr Wolfe's persistence



Value depends on rarity and context

By Damian Whitworth

LIONEL WOLFE's books are to be sold as one lot but the most valuable modern signatures are probably those of The Beatles. Today the Fab Four still top the chart of most sought-after autographs.

A photograph of the band or one of their early albums signed by all four members would fetch upwards of £1,000 at auction. Marilyn Monroe, Elvis Presley and fellow doomed stars such as Jimi Hendrix and Jim Morrison are in the same league.

However, most simple celebrity signatures are worth just a few pounds. Signed photographs of Cliff Richard or Joanna Lumley would fetch less than £100. The squiggles of pop and film stars and sports legends such as Mohammed Ali, formerly Cassius Clay, acquire cachet when they appear on guitars or leather jackets, and the competition among themed restaurants has inflated the cost of such memorabilia.

With historical signatures, even more than with celebrity autographs, the value is dependent on the document on which the name is signed. A letter from Sir Winston Churchill written during the Second World War and mentioning Hitler would be worth tens of thousands of pounds, while his signature itself is widespread.

According to John Wilson, the country's biggest dealer in signed historical documents, if another Shakespeare signature was discovered it would fetch more than £1 million. In the wake of the bard come Queen Elizabeth I, Henry VIII and Sir Thomas More, whose letters have all recently fetched well in excess of £10,000. Others likely to burst through the £10,000 barrier would be Captain Cook and American presidents such as Washington and Lincoln.

Sophie Dupré, another dealer, said that the content of the document and the historical significance of the person was all important. "The most important and influential figures of the past centuries are what people want. Then it is a combination of rarity and desirability. It is always better to have a signed photograph, document or letter than just the signature."

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Government offers summer courses to young poor readers

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

ALMOST 900 children who leave primary school without reaching the expected reading standard will be invited to give up part of their summer holiday to catch up. The scheme is the first stage of the Government's drive to raise literacy levels.

Stephen Byers, the Schools Minister, announced yesterday that the 50-hour pilot programme would be launched at 29 comprehensive schools. If the scheme is successful, it will be expanded next year and may be extended to cover numeracy.

Children who narrowly fail to reach the reading level expected of 11-year-olds will be given priority on this summer's programmes, which will include incentives to ensure pupils last the course.

Teachers and qualified assistants will lead the courses, but parents and some pupils will be invited to help with individual tuition. Each school will take up to 30 children, offering drama and outside visits as well as conventional teaching.

Mr Byers said: "The first day at secondary school is a daunting experience for all pupils. No child should have the extra worry of being left behind in reading skills when we can do something to help."

The programme will receive £300,000 originally earmarked for the Grant Maintained Schools Foundation, which the Government is winding up. Mr Byers said it represented a "reordering of priorities — a clear example of how we intend to give priority to raising standards, not to a sterile debate about structures".

Professor Michael Barber, the government adviser who chaired Labour's literacy task force before the general election, said he had no doubt there would be a strong demand for places. "I would expect that many of these summer schools will be turning children away."

Girls at Charles Edward Brooke School in south London, where the scheme was launched, were divided over whether they would have attended, but supported the initiative. Several said they would volunteer to help this summer. Mary Mensa-Bonsu, 14, said: "I would have been a bit upset about giving up my summer, but if it was going to help, I reckon I would have done it."

Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said the summer schools were a "welcome initiative", provided teachers' involvement was voluntary. "If this initiative heralds a commitment to rectifying serious under-funding, restoring support services and reducing class sizes which undermine teaching, then it is a welcome first step."

Tony Turner, the head of Hartcliffe School in Bristol, which is located between two of the town's largest housing estates, said: "At last we have been given some money to do something that could really make a difference. This enables us to deliberately target those students who need help."

Mr Turner said he wanted to make teaching fun for the pupils, so the lessons would depart from traditional methods, where pupils simply sat behind desks passively absorbing information. "We have to attack this problem in a different way. Our summer school will involve singing and dancing so the kids enjoy the learning process."

Phil Turner, principal of Westgate Community College in Newcastle upon Tyne, said a similar scheme run by the school last year had been such a success that the 12 main feeder primary schools would each be offered five places this summer. "People are quick to blame primary schools, but they have had a difficult job to do. They have been required to teach the national curriculum and have not had time to concentrate on basic skills."

The scheme also met with approval from volunteers already helping children to improve their literacy. Community Service Volunteers has been recruiting teaching assistants for more than 30 years and places some 3,000 volunteers in schools every year to lead curriculum-linked programmes of counselling, language support and literacy.

John Potter, manager of its literacy programme, said: "An emphasis on literacy is crucial for both economic and social reasons," he said. "Kids often get bored in the holidays, so this promises to work well."

Leading article, page 21

SCHOOLS RUNNING COURSES

Allertonshire School, Northallerton, north Yorkshire
Bartley Green Community School, Birmingham
The Blake School, Bridgwater, Somerset
Birchwood Community High School, Warrington
Charles Edward Brooke School, Lambeth, south London
Dyke House Comprehensive School, Hartlepool
Earlsheaton High School, Dewsbury, west Yorkshire
Falinge Park High School, Rochdale
Foxford School, Coventry
Halewood Community School, Halewood, Liverpool
Hartcliffe School, Bristol
Leytonstone School, northeast London
Longford Community School, Feltham
North Manchester High School for Boys
Patcham High School, Brighton
Peers School, Oxford
Portway Community School, Bristol
Ridgeway High School, Birkenhead
Sarah Bonnell School, Stratford, east London
Stanney County High School, Ellesmere Port
Staunton Park Community School, Havant, Hampshire
Thomas Tallis School, southeast London
Walker School, Newcastle
Wayland Community High School, Thetford, Norfolk
West Gate Community College, Newcastle
Windsor High School, Salford
Wodensborough Community College, Wednesbury
Woodlands School, Basildon, Essex
Wycliffe Community College, Braunstone, Leicester

ANDRE CAMARA

Stephen Byers with pupils at Charles Edward Brooke School in south London, where he launched the scheme

Intensive tuition will last up to two weeks

BY JOHN O'LEARY

ALMOST a third of 11-year-olds fall into the group the Government is targeting for its literacy summer schools. Although test scores for English improved last year, 30 per cent reached only the standard expected at the age of nine.

Ministers acknowledge that a more concerted effort will be needed to bring the poorest readers up to the target level. But they believe two weeks of intensive tuition could be sufficient for those near the borderline.

Tests taken last month divide pupils into six grades, with Level 4 pitched at the standard expected of an 11-year-old. Last year, 57 per cent reached this mark in English, but Labour's literacy taskforce estimated that 250,000 pupils were leaving primary school with poor reading skills.

The 29 summer schools will prioritise those who reach Level 3. Last year, such pupils could answer basic questions in a comprehension test, but struggled to generalise or draw conclusions from a passage about a boy's relationship with his brother. The tests cover a range of reading skills, including analysis and personal response, as well as straightforward retrieval of information.

Secondary school head teachers noted a decline in reading standards among 11-year-olds, blaming the demands on primary schools of the national curriculum.

Stay-away children win legal right to demand costly individual attention

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

SIX teenagers from a "lost generation" of children who say they were forced out of school by bullying and other problems launched a legal action yesterday to make a London borough provide them with "suitable" education.

The group, who have fallen out of mainstream education for up to two years, were granted leave in the High Court to seek a judicial review. The five boys and a girl, all receiving legal aid, are said to represent the tip of an iceberg not only in Lambeth but in many other inner city areas.

The test case could force local authorities to provide expensive individual education for children who, in some cases, have been offered school places but have refused to attend. Four of the teenagers, aged 13 to 15, were removed by their parents because of concern for their safety or because the children feared failure. Two others attend schools run by charities which face funding threats.

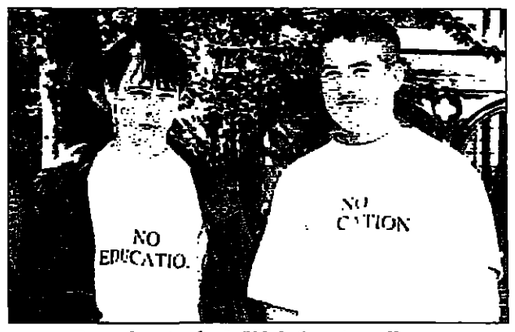
Nathalie Lieven, counsel for the group, said that Lambeth, which has more than 300 children lost to the education system, was failing in its duty under the 1996 Education Act. She told Mr Justice Collins: "There are large numbers for whom education is not being provided. One of the difficulties here is that there are very few schools in Lambeth that will accept children who have been excluded or who have excluded themselves."

The judge told her: "It seems to me that you have grounds for leave to seek judicial review and I rather think Lambeth recognise it." The council did not oppose the application.

Last night Lambeth indicated that it hoped to settle the case out of court. The authority said it wanted to meet the group "to ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place for the applicants' education". It noted the judge's comment that the dispute over its learning-support service was "perhaps the old story of Parliament imposing duties on local authorities and not the cash to carry out those duties".

The charity Community and Voluntary Education (Cave), which caters for bullied pupils and others with a phobia about school, fears for its funding and backed the legal action. It provides full-time education for 12 students at the Cave school at Clapham, and literacy and numeracy units. Helen Leigh, its chairwoman, said: "Lambeth has a policy of no education for the 300 children out of school. We have been refused the three-year contract with Lambeth that we need." Monica Ubergs, 39, hopes that her son, one of the six applicants, will be enrolled at the Cave school, where he is on a waiting list of 30.

She said that she withdrew Kai, 13, from Kingsdale School, Clapham, in February 1996 after prolonged bullying: "He became ill at the prospect of going to school." Ms Ubergs paid for limited private tuition at home before her redundancy made that financially impossible. "I have despaired," she said. "I have received no support at all from Lambeth. Children are being tarnished for the rest of their lives and there needs to be a safety net, otherwise some just drift into crime."



Two of yesterday's High Court applicants

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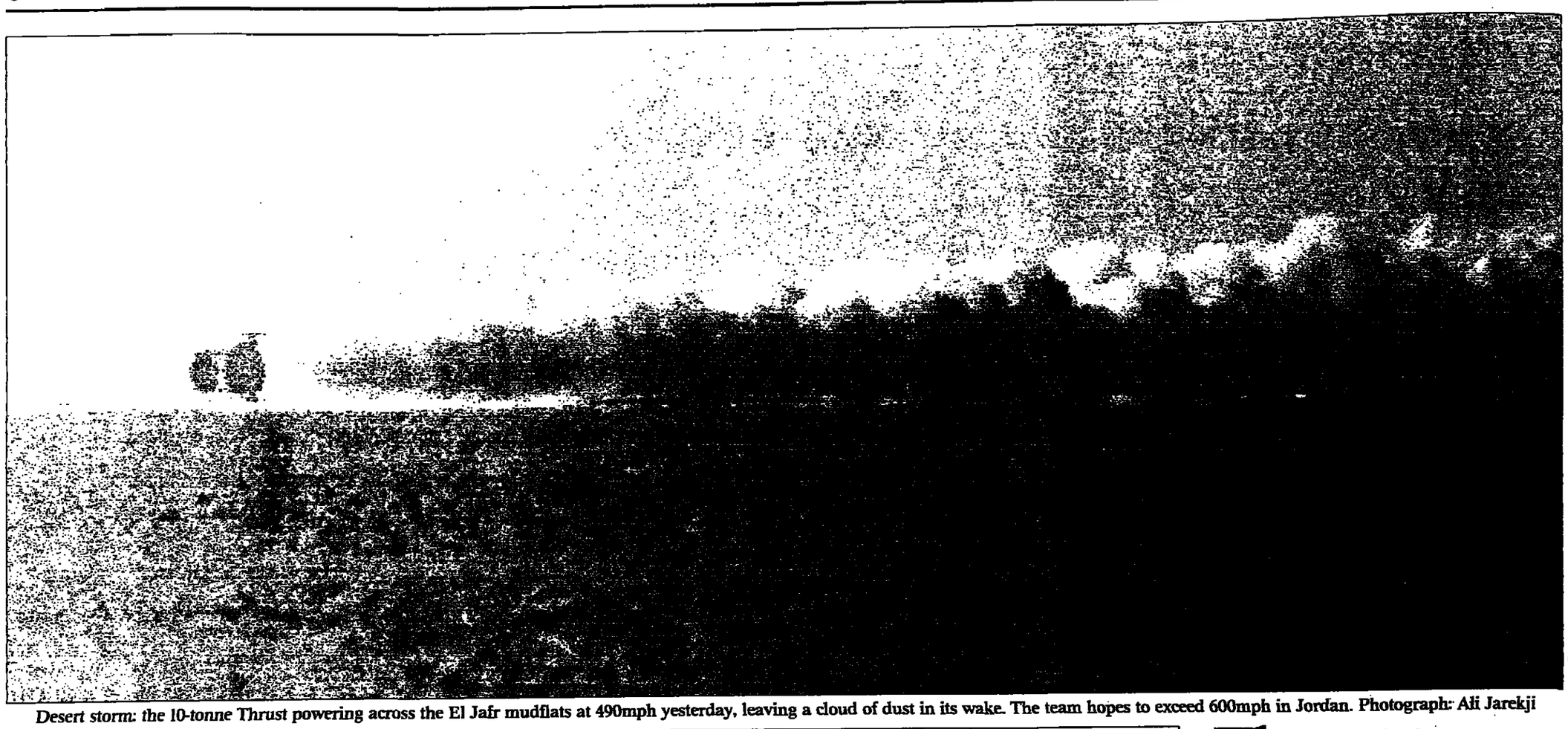

Desert storm: the 10-tonne Thrust powering across the El Jafr mudflats at 490mph yesterday, leaving a cloud of dust in its wake. The team hopes to exceed 600mph in Jordan. Photograph: Ali Jarekji

Thrust team accelerates towards the sound barrier

BY KEVIN EASON, MOTORING EDITOR

SHORTLY after dawn yesterday, a police car with flashing lights and wailing sirens cleared Bedouin herders, their camels and a convoy of dilapidated trucks from the El Jafr mudflats in southern Jordan.

Andy Green, RAF Tornado pilot, would have had little hope of avoiding them as he hurtled across the desert at close to 500 mph in the 10-tonne land speed record car, Thrust SSC.

Thrust's twin jet engines — which produce the power of 141 Formula One cars and consume fuel at four gallons a second — catapulted him to more than 440 mph in little over 12 seconds. He peaked at 490 mph, a plume of dust streaking out behind him, after 2½ miles.

Stopping the 54ft monster took rather longer. Flight Lieutenant Green, looking through the visor of his crash helmet at a speedometer calibrated to 1,000 mph, required another seven miles to slow down, even with a parachute.

The past week has been one of intense activity for the Thrust team, which has been striving to make up for a disappointing series of tests last year, when the car struggled to better 200 mph. Testing was then curtailed by the heaviest rains in five years. Substantial revisions to the car's rear-wheel steering and wheels have since made it more stable at speed and easier to control.

The instability was a major concern for Thrust's engineers. Flight Lieutenant Green is aiming to break the sound barrier, 743 mph, in the world-record attempt in America in September. One tiny deviation at that speed could see the car taking off or ploughing into the Black Rock Desert, Nevada.

Richard Noble, the current world record holder at 633.47 mph and the man behind the new attempt, said after yesterday's run: "I want to see the car go above 600 mph in Jordan and with a bit of luck we might be up to that speed tomorrow."

He added: "Things have been going fantastically well for us and the car keeps on getting better. We have been turning up the speed notch by notch, wanting to be sure that the car would be stable.

"The important thing was to understand what happens to Thrust at high speeds so that we can predict its behaviour and be sure that it will be absolutely stable."

Thrust will not be seen again until it is shipped to Nevada in September for a confrontation with Craig Breedlove, the American land speed veteran. His car, Spirit of America, crashed in tests last year but should be ready in time for the contest, in which the two teams will run on alternate days in an attempt to claim the record.

Thrust SSC remains favourite because of the power and stability offered by its twin Rolls-Royce Spey engines. "Andy Green is used to flying at 850mph," Mr Noble said, "but breaking the sound barrier on land is a quite different matter. That is when you need courage and fantastic engineering."

Green: needed seven miles to halt Thrust

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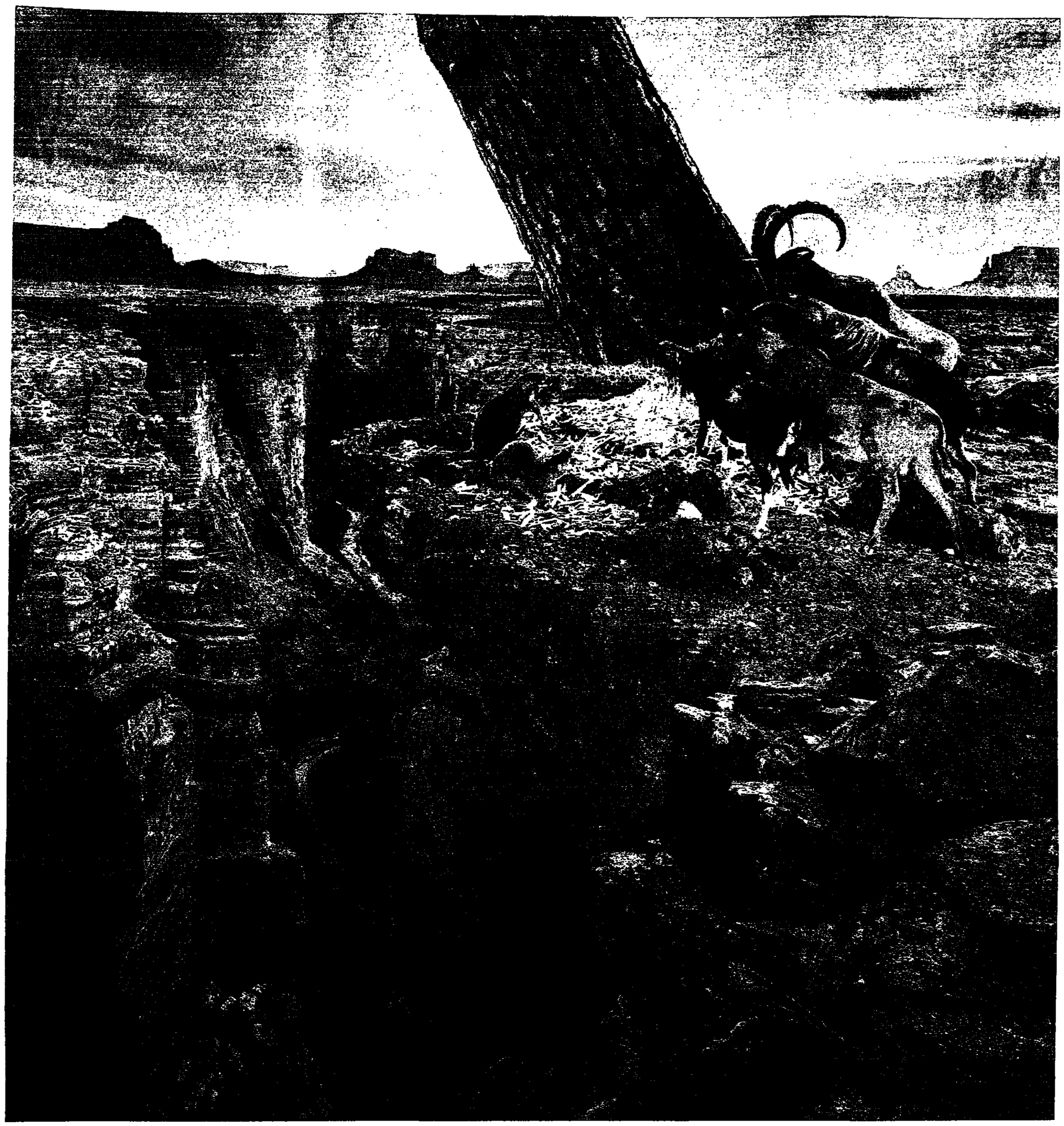

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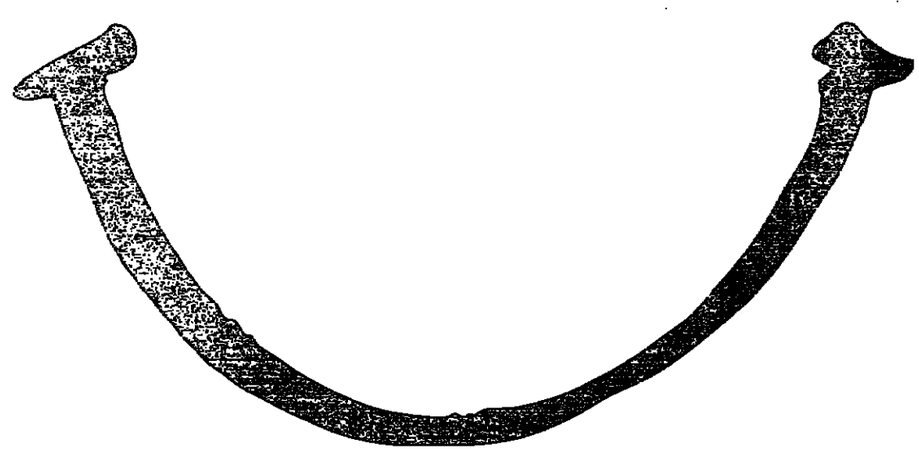

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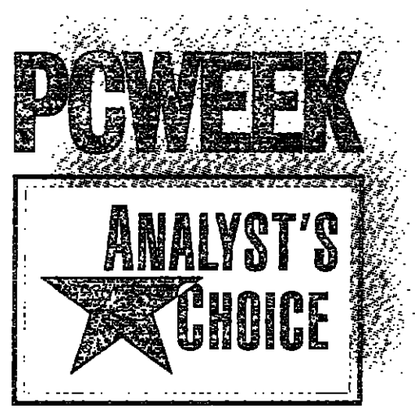

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IRA man tells court how unit set up London base

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

A MAN accused of plotting to blow up London's electricity supply admitted to an Old Bailey jury yesterday that he was an IRA volunteer and detailed how a terrorist team was brought to England.

Gerard Hanratty, 38, and seven other men have pleaded not guilty to plotting to attack six sub stations which link the National Grid to London. The court has been told that if the attack had succeeded it would have left parts of London and the South East without power for months.

Yesterday Hanratty named four other defendents as members of the cell. He claimed they were John Crawley, 39 and a former US marine; Donald Gannon, 34; Patrick Martin, 35, and Francis Rafferty, 45.The other men on trial are Martin Murphy, 38; Robert Morrow, 37, and Clive Brampton, 36.

Giving evidence at the start of the defence cases Hanratty described to the court how the team took careful security measures in London to avoid contact with the public. They lived in areas where they could blend in.

Only the IRA knew where they were. He said the flats they rented only needed telephones which would take incoming calls to prevent any of the team weakening and calling home.

Hanratty told the court he became an active member of the IRA by 1979 after growing up in a Northern Ireland occuppied by British troops. He was imprisoned for 12 years for his activities and while in prison said he met Mo Mowlem, the Northern Ireland Secretary, and talked to her. He said he had also had contact with Sir Patrick Mayhew, her predecessor, and a Unionist MP.

He was released while the ceasefire was still on and told the court how Republicans became frustrated at the lack of progress by the Major government. He said he was sad and shocked when the ceasefire ended with the London Docklands bomb.

Three months later he was called to a meeting and agreed to go on a mission to England. He told the court he gave his commanding officer, whom he would not name, "a commitment" to carry out whatever orders he was given. They were shown maps, routes and documentation about power sources. He told the court of a dry run to a electricity substation in Ireland.

Hanratty said: "The purpose was a dry run for what we were going to do in England." Hanratty said he went to the electricity substation in Ireland with his commanding officer, two others and "someone who had knowledge of the National Grid in England".

He had been "fairly frightened". He added: "I had a healthy respect for electricity and was fairly shocked by what it was like." He was taught to tape a box to a transmitter. Hanratty said he was brought to England after spending three nights in different houses.

Hanratty said he arrived exactly a year ago with another IRA man. Both had false passports and £10,000. They took elaborate precautions to make sure they were not followed and met Crawley and Gannon. They then travelled separately to a Paddington hotel. Martin and Rafferty were to meet later.

He said the IRA suggested the sort of houses to stay in — "Houses where we could blend in. Not a high class, rich area or a high rise block of flats, but somewhere in town." The team was equipped with washing machines to avoid "the risk of going to launderettes". They wanted the minimum contact with the public he said. Televisions with Teletext were chosen as "Teletext tells you where security alerts are, where buses and Tubes are not going and where crashes are".

The case continues.

SIMON WALKER

London is the setting for Jenn Crowell's novel, although she had never been

Author's age was a novel mystery

By Dalya Alberge

AN AMERICAN student, whose novel was written when she was 17 and was snapped up for a £500,000 advance, said yesterday that neither her agent nor her publisher knew her age when they were shown the manuscript.

Jenn Crowell, now aged 19, who flew into London to promote her debut novel, *Necessary Madness*, a story about bereavement which Hodder & Stoughton publish on Friday, said that her professor at Goucher College in Maryland had submitted the manuscript to his agent. "He didn't tell her my age. He was quite vague about me being a student. He had done that before for his graduate students, but this was his first for an undergraduate. We didn't want my age to factor into the submission process."

Mental patient who absconded stabbed baby

By Joanna Bale

A DANGEROUS psychiatric patient was able to walk out of a hospital and buy a knife which he used to stab a baby in a random attack, a court was told yesterday.

Ashleigh Baker was "lucky to be alive" after Malcolm Calladine stabbed her in the stomach with a three-inch blade in front of her horrified mother in a shopping precinct.

Nottingham Crown Court was told that Calladine, who has a long history of violence and behavioural problems, later told police he attacked the child because he wanted to be moved from the Highbury Hospital, Nottingham, to live with his sister.

Judge John Hopkin said he was concerned that Calladine, 39, had been able to abscond so easily. He ordered that Calladine be detained indefinitely in a maximum security hospital.

Gregory Dickinson, prosecuting, said Calladine had walked out of an education class at the hospital saying he wanted to fetch a drink but did not return. It was several hours before staff at the hospital noticed he was missing.

He admitted climbing over a wall and making his way into Nottingham city centre to buy the knife before travelling to the Bridgeway shopping centre in the Meadows area.Mr Dickinson said the baby's mother, Norma-Jean Baker, was talking to a friend when Calladine approached. "He stabbed her [Ashleigh] in the stomach. She was very lucky that she did not die."

The 99p vegetable knife narrowly missed the baby's heart and other vital organs. Ms Baker pulled the knife out and a passer-by gave first aid. The child, one at the time, later underwent surgery and has since made a full recovery.

Calladine ran off after the attack but was tackled by passers-by. He later told detectives: "I wanted to kill a baby."

The court was told he had a mental age of eight or nine and an IQ of 50.

The court was later told that Calladine had been in and out of psychiatric hospitals since the age of five and had several convictions for indecent assault on children as well as a history of knife attacks. He was also known to have absconded repeatedly from different hospitals, including Highbury where he had been since 1991, said Mr Dickinson.

Judge John Hopkin said: "It is very disturbing to hear that somebody with that record is able to abscond so easily."

Mental health campaigners called for increased staffing levels. Mencap praised the judge for speaking out.

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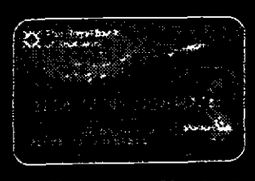

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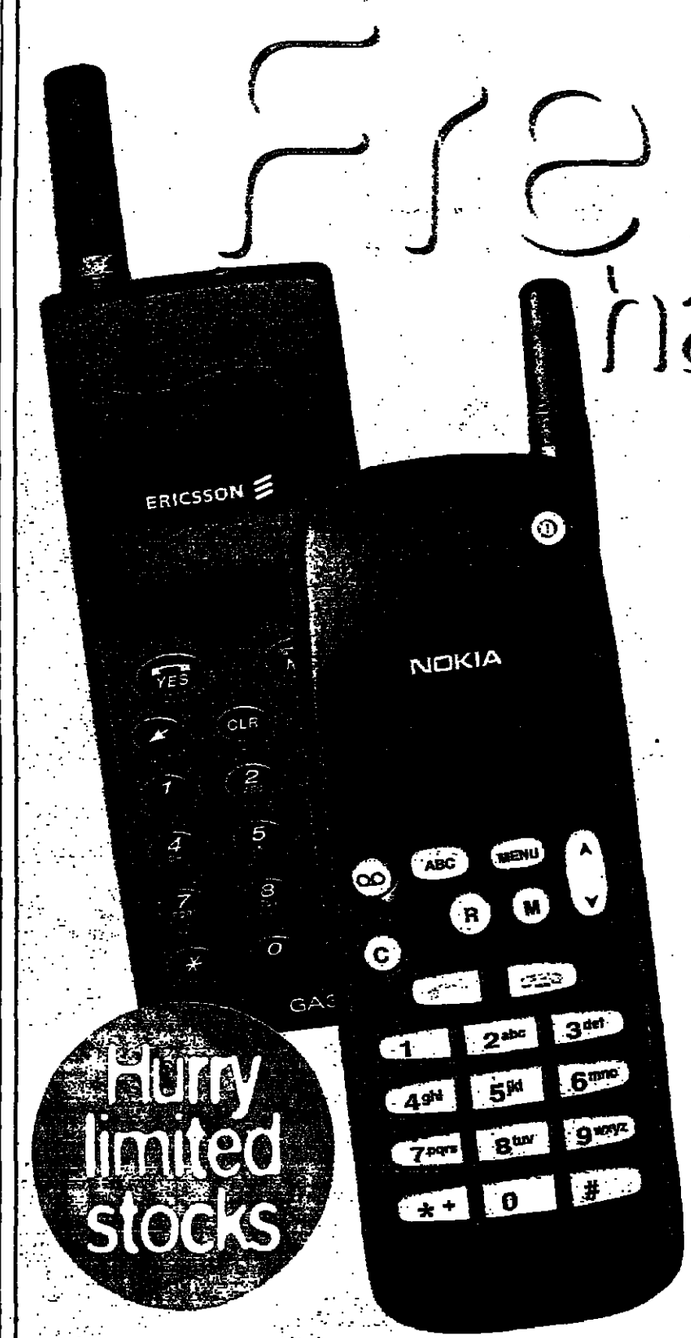

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T 4/6

Founder of Dateline died a reclusive alcoholic

By Adrian Lee

THE founder of the Dateline dating agency, who built a multimillion-pound business by bringing together lonely people, died a recluse, John Patterson, 52, was a chronic alcoholic, too frightened to leave his country house, an inquest was told.

He had suffered the failure of two long-term relationships when he was found drowned in the bath at the home of his former wife, Sandy Nye, having consumed more than four times the alcohol limit permitted for drivers.

After the inquest, Ms Nye, 52, said that drink had ruined Mr Patterson's life. "He was such a dynamic and brilliant man — it was such a shock to see how he had deteriorated so much. He was in a very bad way — he hadn't washed his clothes for a week and I was really shocked."

Repeated efforts to make him give up drink had failed, she said. She was unable to discover who was supplying him with alcohol and she sometimes found bottles of vodka hidden in trees at Chesterton Manor, his home near Oxford.

Ms Nye, who was divorced from Mr Patterson in 1982 and did not see him for 11 years, said: "It really is so sad what happened to him. He didn't seem to care any more. He seemed bored with everything. I think it was boredom which led him to drink."

Mr Patterson established Dateline, said to be the world's largest dating agency, in 1966 after watching American students matchmaking by computer. The agency has more than 35,000 members in Britain and was valued by Mr Patterson at £20 million. It is now run by his eldest son, Jonathan, 23, and Ms Nye with a staff of 25.

After his separation, Kim Sellick, Mr Patterson's secretary, became his common-law wife and they had two children. They parted last year and Ms Nye, the mother of his first three children, began looking after him.

The inquest at Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, on Monday was told that on the day before his death in January Mr Patterson had left home with Ms Nye and his assistant, Mark Cowley, to help him to overcome his fear of going out.

That night Ms Nye stayed at her home in Walpole St Peter, Norfolk, and the men stayed at her other home, Elm Manor at Elm, Cambridgeshire. Next morning, she discovered Mr Patterson in the bath.

Nat Cary, a Home Office pathologist, said Mr Patterson died from drowning and chronic alcoholism and had probably slipped or fallen in the bath. The amount of alcohol in his body, 367mg in 100ml of blood, would on its own have been enough to kill someone who was not used to drink. William Morris, the Coroner, recorded a verdict of accidental death.

Yesterday, Frances Fyne, Mr Patterson's deputy at Dateline, rejected the description of Mr Patterson by his former wife. "As far as I am concerned, he remained committed to Dateline until his death," she said. She added that he had had no shortage of visitors to his home and was a generally happy man. "His legacy is a very sound commercial enterprise."

Patterson: bottles of vodka hidden in trees

ROSS PARRY

Matthews with son Jajie. Winter temperatures at her new home drop to minus 40C and the family shoots caribou from their windows

From Leeds to love in a cold climate

A British woman married the Eskimo who saved her father's life, **Paul Wilkinson** writes

TRACKING caribou and making clothes from skins are not skills an Englishwoman generally needs to bring to a marriage. But for Jo Matthews they are everyday elements in her life with an Eskimo hunter who rescued her father from an icy death after his canoe foundered during a storm.

The scientist's daughter from Leeds dropped out of a zoology degree course in Aberdeen to set up home with Mark Alaqu in a wooden bungalow on the edge of a frozen wilderness near Hudson Bay in northern Canada.

Yesterday at his home in Leeds, her father Barry Matthews, 60, said: "It was love at first sight for Jo. Mark is a very nice person and I approve. He saved my life and he is a wonderful husband for her."

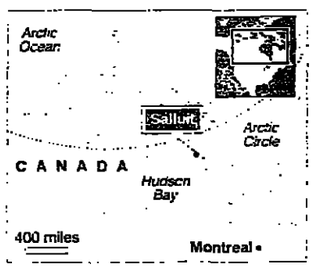
The couple first met in 1994 when Miss Matthews, now 24, joined her father, an environmental scientist, on a month-long scientific expedition to the Arctic, where he was examining climate change. She met Mr Alaqu, 29, at a party in the settlement of Salluit and joined the Inuit Indian on a hunting trip. She said: "It was a very romantic time. It was a beautiful day and the scenery was wonderful."

She fell for the young Eskimo but had to return to Aberdeen. Meanwhile Dr Matthews and his colleague Robert Nagle, were caught in a storm as they explored a fjord 15 miles from the settlement. Winds gusting to 60 mph smashed their canoe on rocks.

For three days the weather was so bad nobody from the settlement could reach them. Huddled in a tent they survived on wild berries and the carcass of a rotting caribou.

Then, as hopes began to fade, Mr Alaqu arrived in his canoe. Dr Matthews said: "There was still a danger of the water upsetting the canoe, but Mark was skilful and brave and he got us back to safety. He saved our lives. We had run out of food and wouldn't have survived for too much longer."

In the autumn of 1994 his daughter decided to return to Canada and Mr Alaqu. The following February a judge in Salluit married the couple and they now have a 22-month-old son, Jajie. She said: "When I came to live here with Mark I knew it was exactly the right thing for me to do. I love him. It never felt like a big decision to make. I knew in my own mind I was making the right choice. I have been very, very happy living here. Jajie is our life. He is a very popular child. He is both our son and our best friend.



"This is a good place to bring children up. Kids are the focal point of the whole community and get a lot of attention." Home for her family in Salluit, population 1,000, is a wooden bungalow — which does have central heating to combat the winter temperatures of minus 40C (-40F). The villagers speak English, French and Eskimo, and the newcomer is now fluent in all three.

Her father said: "When Jo first went there she was against the killing of animals, but she had to change her ideas on that. They have to live off the land. They still eat caribou and there are 400,000 of them. They shoot them from the windows.

"The area is extremely remote, with thousands of square miles of nothing. But the settlement is homely and thriving. The bungalows are built in a traditional French-Canadian style with a balcony and are painted in brilliant colours."

Mrs Alaqu recently took her son and husband to see her native Yorkshire. The trip was partly paid for from an out-of-court settlement of almost £1,000 from Boots the Chemist after film Dr Matthews took on an expedition to the Russian Arctic in 1993 was lost while being processed.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Detectives name man found dead on beach

Police named the man found dead on a Norfolk beach last week as Donald Hamerton, 54, from Spixworth, near Norwich. He had been stabbed twice in the chest and police believe his body had been in the sea for up to four weeks. Police found more than £1,000 in his wallet but no identification and identified him by his fingerprints. Detectives are trying to trace his blue Volvo 240 GL estate. A woman aged 49 who had been helping with inquiries was released on police bail yesterday.

WPC claim fails

WPC Kath Brennan, 25, has had a sexual harassment claim dismissed by an industrial tribunal. A criminal case against PC Robert Bridle, a colleague at Halifax Police Station, was thrown out by Bradford Crown Court last year.

Falcons stolen

Peregrine falcon chicks were stolen from nests on the Northumberland moors and over the border at the weekend. Northumbria Police want to trace the occupants of a Citroën car with an Austrian registration, W292 RS.

Students on call

Lancaster University is to become the first college in Britain to install telephones in every room in its halls of residence. Undergraduates will be able to make and receive calls and all cross-campus calls will be free.

WI goes green

The environmentalist Jonathon Porritt will address the annual conference in Birmingham today of the National Federation of Women's Institutes. WI members will debate a call for a government ban on the use of lindane pesticide.

Whisky blaze

The equivalent of a million bottles of whisky was destroyed after a fire at the Loch Lomond Distillery near Alexandria, Strathclyde. More than 80 firemen took five hours to bring the flames under control on Monday night.

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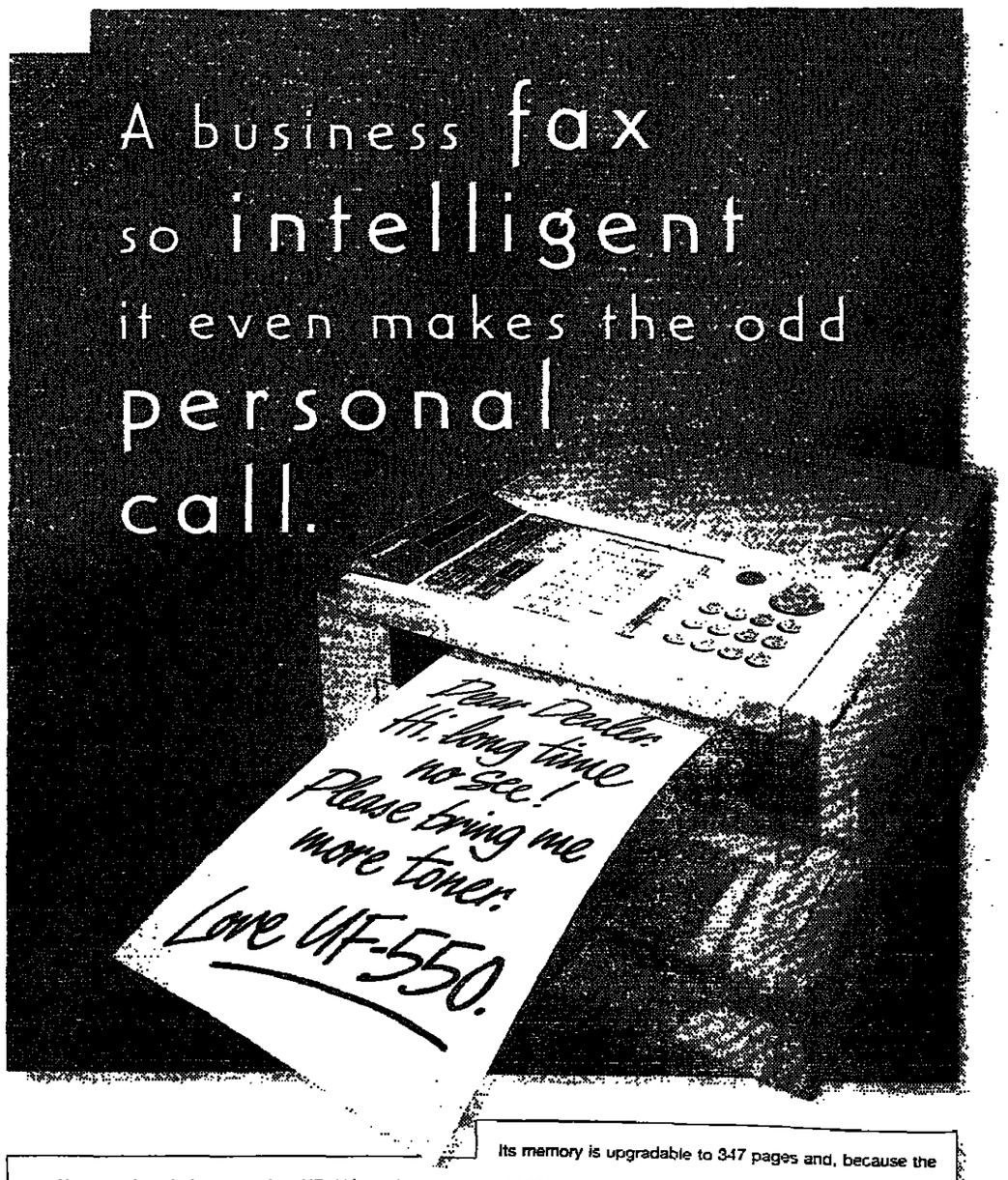

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Guillotine must not replace wider constitutional consultation

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

The fuss about the imposition of a guillotine on the Scottish and Welsh referendum Bill is mostly, but not entirely, bogus. Opposition MPs always accuse the government of the day of behaving arrogantly and anti-democratically on these occasions, when they did just the same when they were in office. There are several precedents for imposing a guillotine on constitutional measures, though Labour might have had a better case if it had allowed the Tories to let off steam for one day. But this does not mean the row is merely a lot of Commons hot air, generating heat but little light.

The affair has both an immediate and more lasting impact. In the short term, the main significance is for the Lords rather than the Commons. Their lordships like to present themselves as guardians of the constitution. But this is largely a self-appointed role apart from their absolute veto on any Bill to extend the life of a Parliament. The interesting question now is whether the Lords will use the imposition of the guillotine as a pretext for amending the referendum Bill — for example, seeking to give the English the chance to vote, adding an additional question and increasing the hurdle required for approval.

The Government and the Opposition are currently manoeuvring round each other in the Lords. The Conservatives, of course, have the numbers easily to out-vote Labour whenever they want, even if the Liberal Democrats back the Government. Tory peers have often defeated the proposals of a Labour Government in the past. During the Queen's Speech debate, Lord Richard, Leader of the Lords, gave an explicit warning to the Opposition that the Government had a mandate and, in particular, "we do have the clear and unmistakable consent of the British people for our proposals for devolution".

Lord Cranborne, the Tory leader, has accepted the so-called Salisbury convention that the Lords does not vote against the second reading of Bills that appeared in the governing party's election manifesto. This was devised by his grandfather when he was in a similar position after the Labour landslide in 1945. However, as Lord Cranborne said, the Opposition would not be "deflected from what they see to be their duty: to exercise their judgment, to improve, to amend and to scrutinise legislation". This leaves ample scope for interpretation. One peer's constructive amendment is another's wrecking tactic. And, of course, in the background is Labour's promise to end the voting right of hereditary peers, which was not in the Queen's Speech but is still in the long-term programme. So the Tories will not want to overreach themselves, and risk a populist Labour campaign for abolition. At present, Tory leaders in the Lords are being cautious and not threatening a "Peers versus the People" row.

What all this shows is the unsatisfactory way that constitutional measures are considered by Parliament. There is general agreement that these should be considered differently from other Bills; hence the convention that their committee stages should be on the floor of the House. But all parties now accept that approval of constitutional changes should involve more than just a Commons majority won by the Government. Their recent election manifestos promised referendums on a single currency and/or other constitutional changes. This implies a degree of formal extra-parliamentary entrenchment going beyond traditional notions of parliamentary sovereignty.

The Government is entitled to impose a guillotine on the referendum Bill, which is, after all, only a preliminary measure. But it needs to be careful, and not just because of the already apparent risks of winner-takes-all triumphalism. Ministers also need to consider new ways of considering constitutional measures, instead of just relying on their huge majority.

PETER RIDDELL

Ministers warned of long haul for referendum Bill

BY POLLY NEWTON, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Government is bracing itself for a battle with Tory peers over legislation providing for a referendum on Scottish devolution after limiting the time MPs had to debate the move.

The suggestion that the Lords will subject the referendum Bill to detailed and time-consuming scrutiny — jeopardising the September vote planned by the Government — came yesterday after Tory MPs expressed their anger that discussions on it in the Commons were curtailed.

Among those attacking the imposition of a "guillotine" on MPs was Michael Howard, the former Home Secretary, who accused ministers of treating the House in an "arrogant and dismissive" way. He said that when Ann Taylor, the Leader of the Hosue, announced on Monday evening that the debate would be subject to a guillotine, there was a "sniggering response" from Labour members.

"It was the palpable self-satisfaction of a group who clearly felt: 'We are the masters now.'"

Lord Strathclyde, the Tory Chief Whip in the Lords, said there was a great deal of frustration at the way the Government was "riding roughshod" over Parliament. When a Bill was guillotined in the Commons, preventing parts of it from being debated, there was a view that the Lords should give those parts "greater scrutiny than perhaps would have otherwise been the case".

The Lords might also table any number of amendments. Lord Strathclyde said: "We haven't yet decided how long [the Bill] will have in committee in the House of Lords . . . The Government is under no illusion that we are going to clear this Bill in a couple of days. We know it's going to take a long time. People expect that. That's what the House of Lords is for."

He said the Government clearly had a mandate for its referendum, but questioned why it had to happen so quickly.

Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, said he hoped "very much" that Tory peers would not delay the Bill unnecessarily. "It would be ill-advised for them to do so in terms of public perception over their role," he said.

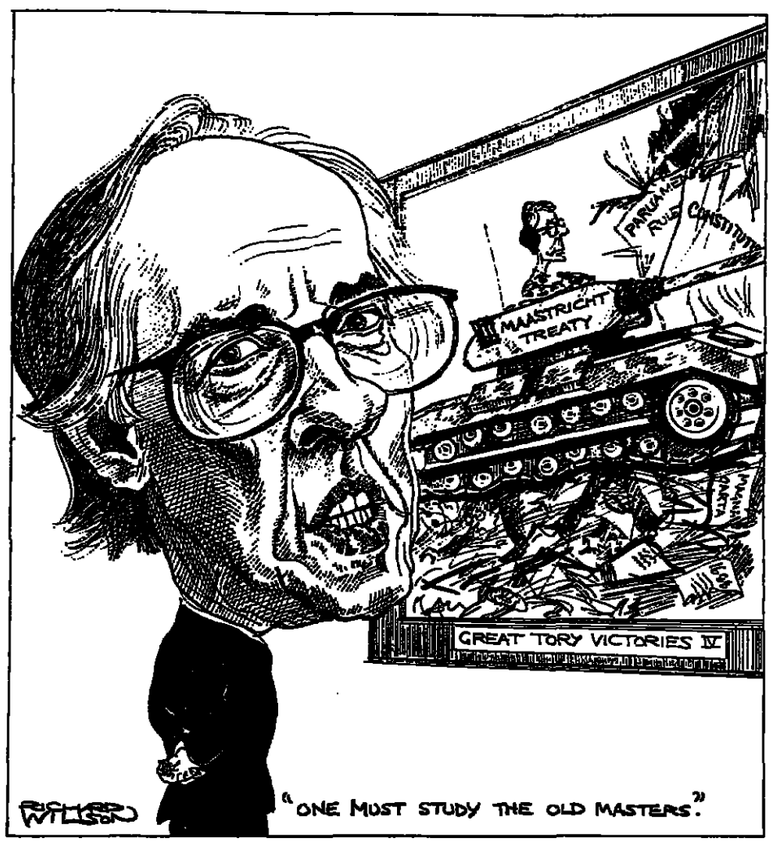
In the Commons debate on the Bill, Mr Dewar said there were precedents for the imposition of guillotines on important Bills. "We cannot have it perpetrated that this has never been done before and that this is some sort of jungle territory we are plunging into where democracy will die among the snakes."

The Tories had attempted "an exercise in obstruction" by tabling more than 200 amendments and the Government had responded by making sure the Bill was not lost because of time pressures. He said the Bill was simply a "paving measure".

Mr Dewar refused to give any assurance that no guillotine would be used during the debate on devolution itself, or that a Bill to set up a Scottish parliament would be debated in the Commons chamber rather than in committee.

The prospect of a row in the Lords over the Scottish referendum came as John Major revealed that most of the Tory big guns, including himself and Michael Heseltine, have been meeting to plan the party's response to the Government's devolution plans.

The committee includes four of the Tory leadership challengers and the former Northern Ireland Minister Michael Ancram, a Scot who has been tipped to take over the role of Shadow Scottish Secretary in the absence of any Scottish Tory MPs. The MPs and peers on the committee are Mr Major, Mr Heseltine, Mr Howard, Mr Ancram, Kenneth Clarke, Michael Howard, Brian Mawhinney, Stephen Dorrell, Viscount Cranborne, William Hague, Alastair Goodlad and Lord Strathclyde. Also on the committee are Audrey Hull, chairman Wales region, Paul Valerio, vice-chairman Wales region, Miss Annabel Goldie, chairman of the Scottish Tory party and David McLetchie, president of the Scottish party.



Fringe parties may seize Irish levers of power

BY AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE Green Party, Sinn Fein and a handful of independents could hold the balance of power in the next Irish government.

With the government and opposition coalition parties running neck and neck, attention is turning to what the smaller parties would seek if the main parties fail to make up the required majority in Friday's general election.

The Green Party, which appears on course to win up to four of the 166 seats on offer, would not say yesterday whether it would join the government coalition of Fine Gael, Labour and the Democratic Left or the opposition parties of Fianna Fail and Progressive Democrats.

John Gormley, the former Lord Mayor of Dublin who is standing for the Green Party in Dublin South East, says it would side with the parties promising a referendum on maintaining Irish neutrality. It will also seek commitments to the introduction of increased taxes on natural resources and pesticides.

The Green Party is expected to attract floating voters who supported Labour at the last election in 1992. Trevor Sergent, the party's only sitting MP, is likely to be returned to North Dublin. There is a strong chance that the Greens will take seats from two sitting Progressive Democrats, Michael McDowell losing to Mr Gormley and Liz O'Donnell losing to Gerry Boland in Dublin South.

The government parties are receptive to the inclusion of the Green Party in their rainbow coalition. Bertie Ahern, the Fianna Fail leader, has ruled out anything other than a two-party coalition.

With government parties trailing by only four percentage points, only independents rather than a party might be required to secure the majority of 83 seats. In the last election there were 108 independents, including anti-abortion candidates standing for seats. This year the figure has risen to 149, with people standing against immigration, water charges and satellite television, and in favour of nudist beaches.

One of the most influential independent members of the Dail is expected to be Michael Lowry, the former Fine Gail minister. He was struck off the party list after it emerged that he had received thousands of pounds in untaxed income from the supermarket tycoon Ben Dunn. He is expected to come first or second in North Tipperary.

Tory leadership: contest enters final phase with many MPs keeping their intentions hidden

Parkinson boosts Hague campaign

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LORD PARKINSON issued a ringing endorsement of William Hague's Tory party leadership campaign yesterday when he accorded him the ultimate Thatcherite accolade: "He is one of us".

The backing of Lord Parkinson, who was one of Margaret Thatcher's closest aides, was an important boost to Mr Hague. The announcement was carefully timed to come only 24 hours after Mr Hague had met Baroness Thatcher.

Lord Parkinson, who confirmed he had been approached by several other right-wing candidates, said it had been a difficult choice as he had worked with the others. "But we approaching into a new era and a new century," he said. He then borrowed one of Lady Thatcher's favourite phrases: "I'd be very surprised if William does not fall into the category of 'one of us'. In fact, I know he is one of us."

Not that Lady Thatcher necessarily agrees. The former Prime Minister telephoned one senior rightwinger yesterday and apparently asked: "Is William Hague a right-winger?" Lord Parkinson, however, was in no doubt. "He is firmly in the best centre-right tradition," he said. "It's very important that a centre-right person wins."

He conceded that Mr Hague was very young to be leader, but He added: "See what Mr Blair had achieved by the time he was 36, and you see that he compares less favourably. William was the youngest Cabinet minister for decades. He has out-performed Blair at every stage in their chosen careers so far."

One of Mr Hague's rivals, John Redwood, stepped up his campaign yesterday with the publication of his own shadow Budget. He urged Gordon Brown to announce a £2.5 billion cut in public spending when he announces his Budget on July 2. He said that it could be paid for by scrapping English regional government, expanding privatisation and waging war on social security fraud.

"Out of these savings he could increase spending on health by £600 million and on schools by £400 million . . . The electorate made their views clear when they rejected our spending plans on May 1. The Conservatives have learnt from the election, yet Labour remains wedded to the spending plans they inherited from us."

Hague: endorsed in Thatcherite terms

Rival camps target the floating fifty

BY PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR

THE voting intentions of at least 50 Tory MPs were unknown to the camps of the six contenders to replace John Major as the campaign for the first ballot entered its last week yesterday.

Those MPs will, of course, eventually be crucial to the outcome. But over the next six days the candidates will seek their help for clearing the first hurdle. They will be frantically canvassed and courted as the candidates strive to ensure that their showing in the first round next Tuesday is respectable enough for them to move on to the second a week later, before a possible run-off between the two front-runners two days after that.

A battle for supremacy is being played out on the Right. Its four representatives — Michael Howard, Peter Lilley, John Redwood and William Hague — know that they must finish in the first three places next Tuesday, or at least come a very good fourth, to have a serious chance of ultimate success. But with one of those places almost certain to be taken by Kenneth Clarke, the former Chancellor and apparent frontrunner, disappointment is certain for some. The sixth candidate is Stephen Dorrell, who is believed to be trailing the field.

The view at Westminster is that Mr Hague and Mr Lilley are ahead of Mr Howard and Mr Redwood, but not by a substantial amount.

Under the complicated election rules there is no requirement on anyone to drop out after the first ballot. But it would be pointless for the candidates in fifth and sixth place to expect to do any better in the second ballot, and there would be serious doubt as to whether the fourth-placed candidate could improve his position. The key issue that the contenders will be pondering will be whether they should throw in the towel if they fail to finish in the first three next week. And the key question for MPs will be to whom should they switch their support if their first choices drop out.

In a hypothetical situation where Mr Clarke led the contest with 50 votes, with Mr Hague on 30 and Mr Lilley on 26, a fourth-placed Mr Howard on 24 votes might well feel it was worth carrying on in the hope of picking up some of Mr Redwood's 20 votes (assuming of course that he stood down) or Mr Dorrell's 10.

But if Mr Howard were well behind, he might well decide that the way to avoid humiliation in the second ballot would be to stand down. He would also be freeing his own supporters to choose again from the remaining candidates. Yesterday, however, friends of the former Home Secretary were adamant. He would be in the second ballot whatever the result of the first because he felt he could count on votes from supporters of the less favoured candidates.

The other imponderable for observers trying to predict the outcome is the intentions of the backers of the candidates who pull out after the first or second ballots. The commonly held opinion on the Right is that in the end enough of the votes of its four contenders will combine to ensure that Mr Clarke is defeated in the final round.

Others are not so sure. They say that if Mr Clarke were to be well ahead on the first round he could go on to eventual victory through gaining the support of non-ideologues and centrists who see him as the best candidate to rough up Tony Blair over the next few years.

MPs will spend next weekend weighing their choices. They will consider what is best for their party, but they would not be human if they did not consider, too, what was best for their own prospects. What would, for example, be the best course for a middle-aged former middle-ranking minister who still has aspirations to making the Cabinet under the next Tory government? He might think that he would prosper more under the 56-year-old Mr Clarke than the 36-year-old Mr Hague.

And would Mr Hague's supporters necessarily want to fall in behind Mr Lilley in a final run-off if he narrowly beats their man? Several have already made plain privately that in those circumstances they would favour Mr Clarke.

It adds up to one of the most fascinating and unpredictable leadership elections in any party for decades. The contenders can make claims but no one can really tell at this stage. A final run-off between Mr Clarke and Mr Hague looks the most likely outcome.

THE TIMETABLE

June 5:	Nominations close
June 10:	First ballot
June 17:	Second ballot
June 19:	Final ballot

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Deal over EU veto clears way for new Union treaty

European decision-making will be easier under a agreement made yesterday — but Britain insists on keeping an 'emergency brake' for foreign policy issues

BRITAIN yesterday agreed with its European partners the outline of a deal which would let the European Union run its foreign policy partly through majority decision-making rather than unanimity.

The understanding, in which member states retain the right to apply a veto over national interest, clears one of the remaining hurdles in the path to a revamped Union treaty. This is to be clinched by EU leaders in Amsterdam in a fortnight.

While the Government accepts majority voting in certain new areas, it has, like its Conservative predecessor, resisted pressure to dilute the veto in foreign policy, immigration and other areas of sovereign policy. British officials insisted that the new mechanism effectively meant a possible veto continued to apply to all areas of foreign policy.

The Dutch Government, which holds the current EU presidency, was optimistic after the final ministerial negotiating session before Amsterdam that "Maastricht II" would be completed on schedule. While the election of a French Socialist government has transformed the outlook for monetary union, it is not expected to reopen much debate on the new EU treaty.

Lionel Jospin, the new Prime Minister, is expected to insist on a beefed-up version of the "employment chapter", a section which has been inserted in the new treaty. Germany, backed by Britain, is opposing one clause in an otherwise anodyne text that merely commits states to observing guidelines on employment policy and submitting the national record to EU review. The disputed passage promises financial "incentives" for states to promote full employment.

Bonn refuses to contemplate spending any more EU money, especially in a field which it considers national, rather than EU, business. While the Government now backs the employment chapter, Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, says he shares Germany's misgivings.

Nothing could illustrate better the gulf between France's left-wing Government and Britain's than the manoeuvring over the employment chapter. Tony Blair persuaded his fellow leaders last month to insert commitments to a flexible, market-oriented employment policy.

This irritated the former Gaullist Government and, according to French officials, is disliked by the Socialists, who came to power promising a state that would impose stronger regulation on market forces. The EU business world was alarmed at moves yesterday by the French state, which owns 51 per cent of Renault, to force the car maker to reverse its decision to close its Belgian factory at Vilvoorde, near Brussels. The sudden closure was denounced by Socialists across the Continent as a violation of the spirit of "social Europe", or EU's social chapter.

M Jospin is expected to make big political play with the employment chapter as proof that he is carrying out his mandate to make jobs the overriding priority of his Government. Elisabeth Guigou, a former Socialist minister and likely member of the new Jospin Cabinet, yesterday insisted on the need for an employment chapter. Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, said Bonn officials would probably acquiesce in the name of harmony with its main European partner.

Germany, almost alone now in its commitment to a euro launched with absolute monetary rigour, is resisting M Jospin's demands for an "economic government" of Europe to match the monetary powers of the future European Central Bank.

The compromise on foreign policy is aimed at solving a widely agreed acceptance of the fact that the need for unanimity in every action often hampers the 15 from swift action on the world stage. Under the new arrangement, the EU's leaders will settle broad policy, called "common strategies", by unanimity.

Governments will put them into practice on the basis of qualified majority voting. The sovereignty qualms of Britain, France and others are answered by an "emergency brake". This will allow a country to object to a joint action for reasons of national interest. The decision will then be sent back to the heads of government for a unanimous decision. Under another scheme, also accepted by Britain, countries may abstain from actions that they disagree with.

Unless there is new agreement by officials later this week, the leaders at Amsterdam will be left to hammer out compromises on the outstanding issues. The most complicated involves the scheme to lift all EU internal frontiers and centralise controls over immigration and some police work. Britain has been assured of an opt-out, along with Ireland, but the draft texts so far satisfy few states.

A battle is now under way between the smaller states, which want to retain maximum voting power and a presence in the Commission, and the big members, including Britain, which want to put a lid on the expanding Brussels executive.

Pope condemns 'the wall of division'

Gniezno, Poland: The Pope said yesterday that a wall of economic and political selfishness as divisive as the Berlin Wall was threatening European unity.

"Since the collapse of the visible wall, another invisible one has been discovered, one that continues to divide our continent, the wall that exists in people's hearts," he said in a sermon at an open-air Mass.

The pontiff, on the fourth day of an 11-day pilgrimage to his homeland, told a rapturous crowd of 250,000 people in Gniezno, Poland's first capital, that there must be continued commitment towards co-operation between European countries. He thanked God for the fall of Communism but said that Europeans were divided by "a wall made out of fear and aggressiveness, of a lack of understanding for people of different origins, different colour, different religious convictions". *(Reuter)*

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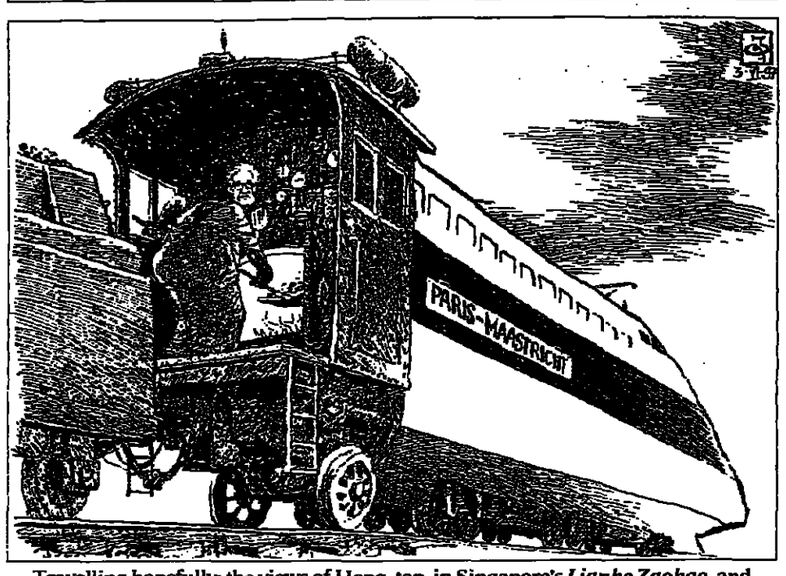

Travelling hopefully: the views of Heng, top, in Singapore's *Lianhe Zaobao*, and Veenenbos, above, in Vienna's *Der Standard*, on the Socialist victory in France

Prime Minister sets off on hectic summer of summitry

BY MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

BLAIR AGENDA

WITH the future of Europe now hanging largely on the direction of France's Socialist Government, Tony Blair sets off tomorrow for a key meeting of fellow left-leaning Prime Ministers who control all but two of the 15 European Union states.

Mr Blair flies to Malmo, Sweden, for a meeting of the Socialist International, at which Lionel Jospin, the new French Prime Minister, is expected to outline the changes he wants to see in plans for economic and monetary union (EMU). Many other leaders of left-wing governments, or those in coalition with the Left, will also be eager to hear Mr Blair's proposals for the EU next year when Britain holds the presidency during the crucial run-up to the start of monetary union.

Mr Blair's visit marks the beginning of a hectic summer of summitry that will barely calm down before the demanding timetable of the EU presidency. This has suddenly become more important because of the new faces now sitting around the top tables.

After Malmo, Mr Blair will fly to Bonn for talks with Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor. These are likely to focus on the prospects now for EMU, as will his visit next week to Paris for his first bilateral meeting with M Jospin.

On June 16 and 17 Mr Blair and Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, will attend the EU Amsterdam summit at which all EU leaders hope to conclude the Maastricht II treaty. Three days after it ends, the two will travel to America for the annual summit of the Group of Seven industrialised countries — now expanded to Eight to include Russia.

Mr Blair then flies back via New York where he will take part in the follow-up conference to the Rio Earth Summit, and where he is expected to make an important speech about Britain's commitment to the global environment.

Barely a week after he returns, he and Mr Cook fly out to Hong Kong for the handover of sovereignty to China. A week later, the two men will be in Madrid for the crucial Nato summit which will decide which new countries will be admitted as full members of the alliance.

There will be a brief break in August, but the political season starts again in September with a meeting of EU foreign ministers in Brussels and the United Nations General Assembly session. Mr Cook will accompany the Queen to India in October, and he and Mr Blair will return for the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Edinburgh.

☐ **Stockholm:** Goran Persson, the Swedish Prime Minister, declared yesterday the country would not join EMU at the proposed January 1999 start. He said the project was uncertain and shaky. *(Reuter)*

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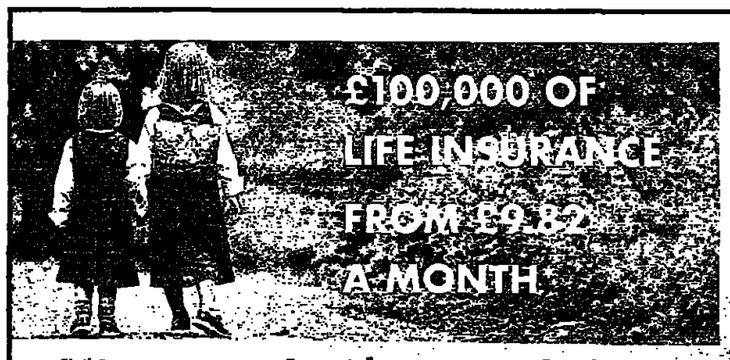

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Socialists' call for new talks on euro pact opens rift with Kohl

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

FRANCE

FRANCE'S Socialist leader, Lionel Jospin, devoted just 13 minutes to a ceremony installing him as Prime Minister yesterday before vanishing into his new office to prepare a Cabinet and address the mounting pressures of government — most immediately a potential row with Germany over economic and monetary union.

M Jospin beamed as Alain Juppé, his vanquished predecessor, formally handed over power, but he already has much to preoccupy him. Just hours before M Jospin entered the prime ministerial residence at the Hôtel Matignon, François Hollande, the Socialists' spokesman, said the party wanted to reopen negotiations on the stability pact approved last December to limit deficits after the launch of the single currency.

"We want to have assurances that the stability pact does not mean more austerity for France," M Hollande said, opening the first big difference of opinion between France and Germany over EMU.

Under the stability agreement, governments within the single currency would be penalised if their deficits exceed 3 per cent of gross domestic product. M Hollande's remarks appeared to undercut the very basis of the deal. "We want to be sure that sanctions will not be applied if the main objectives are not reached," he said.

At the same time, Elisabeth Guigou, the Socialist MP certain to play a key role in the Cabinet, insisted that France would stick to the EMU timetable. The Socialists have laid down a number of conditions for the euro, including membership of Italy and Spain from the outset and a European economic government to balance an independent central bank.

The Communist Party, which holds the balance of power, has brought intense pressure to bear on its Socialist allies, citing an undertaking that there would be no further austerity measures in the drive for a single currency as a condition for supporting the Government.

The administration's early emphasis on renegotiating the stability pact will sharply increase German fears of the single currency being delayed or derailed. Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, indirectly intervened in the French election campaign two weeks ago when he said he did not believe the pact should be tampered with.

Herr Kohl shelved plans to travel today to Paris, where he was due to address the parliamentary assembly of the Western European Union. A spokesman insisted that the cancellation was not linked to the French election. The issue of the stability pact is only of several likely bones of contention between the new Prime Minister and President Chirac. In an early sign of what many predict will be a most prickly "cohabitation", M Jospin was reported to be planning to attend all international summits with M Chirac, beginning with the European Union meeting in Amsterdam on June 16 — an apparent bid to buck the tradition that leaves the international stage to the President.

M Jospin said he would give his keynote policy speech in parliament on June 17. He has already sketched out the broad outlines of his Cabinet, to be announced within 48 hours, with women in several of the most powerful posts.

Martine Aubry, the former Labour Minister, is tipped for the Social Affairs portfolio, and Catherine Trautmann, the outspoken Mayor of Strasbourg, is expected to take over Justice. Mme Guigou and Laurent Fabius, a former Prime Minister, are the leading candidates for Foreign Minister.

As M Juppé bowed out, heads continued to roll in the centre-right coalition. Jean-François Mancel, secretary-general of the Gaullist RPR party, resigned and Philippe Séguin, the former Speaker, reportedly threatened a "knife fight to the finish" if M Juppé tried to retain control of the party.

Backbench rebels force climbdown by Bonn on gold

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

GERMANY

HELMUT KOHL'S Government, alarmed by a backbench rebellion, yesterday dropped controversial plans to use national gold reserves in an attempt to meet economic and monetary union targets for 1997.

The deal with the Bundesbank ends, or at least suspends, a damaging row with the central bank that had spread alarm in European markets and among Germany's partners. According to Christian Democrat sources, Theo Waigel, the Finance Minister, has agreed with the bank that the country's gold reserves will be revalued only at the year's end. Resulting profits will be transferred to the Government in 1998.

The move is supposed to banish the impression that Bonn was prepared to scrape away the bank's independence and fiddle the figures to meet the Maastricht public finance and debt criteria.

The absence of gold profits this year leaves a gaping hole of around DM10 billion (£3.5 billion) in the budget. But the retreat was essential.

Knives were out for Herr Waigel, who looked as if he might not survive a no-confidence motion today: Herr Kohl cancelled a Paris visit so he could defend publicly both his vision of EMU and his embattled minister. The Government never doubted that the forced dismissal of Herr Waigel would be the beginning of the end for the Kohl team.

Christian Democrat deputies were furious about the revaluation plan and the suggestion that Germany was indulging in "creative accounting" to stay on course for EMU. Several younger deputies threatened to vote against the Government if it tried to amend the Bundesbank law — necessary if Bonn were to get its hands on gold profits this year.

With a parliamentary majority of five votes, the Chancellor's party managers were nervous. Worse, the Bavarian Christian Social Union — Herr Waigel's party — gave him a rough time on Monday, telling him they would not tolerate any trickery. The minister told them that Germany would, without Bundesbank gold, certainly miss the total debt target of 60 per cent of gross domestic product in 1997. But Herr Waigel promised to do all in his power to keep the public deficit down to the required 3 per cent of GDP.

As far as the German Government is concerned, the crisis has abated. Yet the fundamental problems remain and the Government is still skating on very thin ice. There are only three ways of balancing the budget: to borrow more money (pushing Germany well beyond the Maastricht ceilings), to cut spending (which would be blocked by the Social Democrat-dominated upper house) or to raise taxes (which could lead to the defection of the Free Democrats from the coalition Government).

Waigel: might have lost no-confidence motion

Despite the pledges of Herr Waigel, the Maastricht 3 per cent target is as far away as ever. The mistimed grab for the national gold reserves has pushed the Government into a corner. The unspoken addendum to yesterday's ceasefire agreement with the Bundesbank was that the Kohl administration would now do anything to keep the euro hard — and keep countries such as Italy out of the initial nucleus.

Only a tougher line can restore Germany's now tarnished reputation as a pillar of fiscal rectitude. But France, Bonn's chief partner in the single currency adventure, is steering towards a softer euro, easier entry terms and early Italian accession.

☐ **London:** John Major yesterday urged Tony Blair to use this month's Amsterdam summit to warn the European Union to delay the single currency (Philip Webster writes).

The former Prime Minister said in an interview on Radio 4's *The World at One* that his new stance was prompted by the Socialist victory in the French elections and the German Government's attempt to revalue gold.

Mr Major said: "It has now become apparent that they are not going to have the right economic conditions by January 1, 1999. Now we face different circumstances. We now face circumstances that it seems possible to me to almost dismiss the possibility of the right conditions being there. That being the case, we have to guard against the danger of fudge."

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EPA

Diplomatic ties: Robin Cook, left, with Jacques Santer, President of the European Commission, in Luxembourg

Britain offers extra help for Albania poll

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

ITALY

ROBIN COOK, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday announced after talks with Lamberto Dini, his Italian counterpart, that Britain would send 45 extra monitors to the elections in Albania at the end of this month.

Mr Cook said that Britain already had eight monitors in place, but Franz Vranitsky, the former Austrian Chancellor and envoy to Albania for the Organisation of Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), had asked London to send further observers, bringing the British total to 53, 15 of whom would be MPs drawn from all parties.

The Foreign Secretary said Herr Vranitsky wanted a total observer force of at least 300 to ensure that the election process had "clear transparency" and was conducted with sufficient stability to give Albanian voters "confidence in the electoral process". But Mr Cook said Britain would not contribute troops to the Italian-led intervention force in Albania. He praised the Italian role in Albania, but said that Britain was already heavily committed in Bosnia, and in terms of manpower, logistics and cash "we are not in an easy position to contribute to any other expeditionary force". A military operation such as Albania "is difficult for us to contemplate", he said.

Mr Cook made clear that his reference on taking office to Britain, France and Germany as the "big three" of Europe was not intended as an insult to Italy. "I have assured Mr Dini that no offence was intended, and in that spirit none was taken." He said he was happy to make it clear that Italy, like Britain, France and Germany, was a "leading member of Europe", and Italy and Britain had a great deal in common on the issue of EU enlargement to include Central and Eastern European countries.

Mr Cook said he had simply intended to signal that Britain wanted to take part in the shaping of the European agenda.

WORLD SUMMARY

Ex-king stripped of Greek land

Athens: A special high court has upheld a 1994 Socialist Act stripping former King Constantine of Greece of his property there (John Carr writes). The majority decision is widely believed to have been the result of government pressure.

From his London home, the former king, 57, said that he would continue his fight for the property at the International Court of Justice.

The land includes an estate at Tatoi, north of Athens — which is the royal family's burial place — and Mon Repos Palace on Corfu, birthplace of the Duke of Edinburgh. Both have been derelict for 25 years.

La Fenice pledge

Rome: The winner of the competition to rebuild La Fenice opera house in Venice, which burned down last year, has vowed to complete the work ahead of schedule and in time for the millennium. Gae Aulenti, 70, a prominent Italian architect whose previous commissions include the Musee D'Orsay in Paris, said her design had placed emphasis on security to guard against fires.

Media son dead

New York: The son of Gerald Levin, head of Time Warner Inc, the US communications conglomerate, has been stabbed to death in his Manhattan appartment. The body of Jonathan Levin, 31, was found by police here late on Monday night (Tunku Varadarajan writes). He was face down in a pool of blood, and gagged with tape. He had been dead about 72 hours.

Statue 'cried'

Rome: The Vatican ruled that tears of blood shed by a statue of the Virgin Mary, north of here, just over two years ago were "authentic", but stopped short of declaring the phenomenon a miracle. The statue was first reported to have cried on February 2, 1995. There have been 50 witnesses to the phenomenon. The Vatican said that it had detected no signs of "trickery".

Ex-commando chief tipped to follow Peres

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S main opposition Labour Party was choosing a new leader yesterday, with Ehud Barak, 55, the country's most decorated soldier, widely tipped to take over from Shimon Peres.

Now aged 73, Mr Peres had refused to retire gracefully, despite losing a record five general elections. Many of the 167,000 Labour members entitled to vote were hopeful that the party would now provide a more effective opponent to Binyamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister.

All opinion polls predict a sizeable win for Mr Barak, seen by himself and others as a younger version of the assassinated Yitzak Rabin, the former Prime Minister. Emphatic and tough-talking, Mr Barak campaigned as the only candidate with a hope of beating Mr Netanyahu at the next general election in 2000. His pitch, in a country obsessed by security, was boosted by the fact that he was Mr Netanyahu's former commander in the elite Sayeret Maktal commando unit.

Facing Mr Barak in the poll were Yossi Beilin, 48, one of the architects of the Oslo peace deal; Shlomo Ben-Ami, a Moroccan-born novice politician; and Ephraim Sneh, a physician and former senior military commander.

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Bottled snakes and tortoises reveal sorcery behind Mobutu regime

By Inigo Gilmore

THE discovery of "magical" bottled snakes, tortoises and toads at the home of one of President Mobutu's former generals has stirred renewed interest in the supernatural beliefs that underpinned the ousted Zaireah dictator's 32-year regime and enveloped his rule in an aura of invincibility.

The find offers further evidence of the deep supernatural beliefs, held by Mr Mobutu and those around him, that fostered their sense of invincibility. For much of his rule, Mr Mobutu surrounded himself with witch doctors and soothsayers who dispensed witchcraft and guided his actions. His trademark leopardskin hat, cane and name were integral to the mystical world he inhabited.

Born Joseph Desiré Mobutu he transformed himself into Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku wa za Bang, the official translation of which runs: "The all-powerful warrior who, because of his endurance and will to win, will go from conquest to conquest leaving fire in his wake."

According to officially inspired rumours spread during his dictatorship, he carried a sculpted cane that was so heavy 20 normal men could not pick it up. A public service announcement preceding the nightly news showed "The Guide" descending God-like from the clouds.

Born into a Catholic family, Mr Mobutu later switched to a pre-colonial form of worship. African religion in the former Zaire is a form of animism, in which human qualities are attributed to animals and *fetisheurs* dispense magic potions and charms which can be worn on the body and are believed to have magical powers to protect the wearer against danger or to harm enemies.

For Mr Mobutu and those around him, this witchcraft was highly potent. By 1991 Mr Mobutu's inclination to be guided by his witch doctors had reached absurd proportions. Fearing that his army, and even his ceremonial pygmy guard, would turn against him, he flew 25 West African voodoo priests from Benin and Senegal to his palace in Kinshasa. One told him he would never be deposed if he lived on water, so he acquired a riverboat. The President moved his home and offices to the *Camanyola*, a former Belgian steamer moored on the Congo River. Legend has it he did not leave the boat for two years. Banknotes printed in Germany for the National Treasury would be brought to him and divided up.

On the advice of his witch doctors, Mr Mobutu also ignored the early symptoms of prostate cancer, which has now spread to his skeleton.

Shortly before the Mobutu regime was finally toppled by rebels last month, Kongolu, his despised son, visited a West African fortune teller at a hotel in central Kinshasa. Afterwards he was seen marching into the foyer from the hotel lift shouting into a cellular phone. Clearly he had learnt that the Mobutus were no longer invincible.

☐ **Geneva:** Swiss banks have found only £2 million of assets belonging to former President Mobutu and his family, despite claims by the country's new leaders that several billion pounds lie in their vaults (Peter Capella writes). The assets include foreign shares, bonds, securities and a safe deposit box yet to be opened. The announcement came after a renewed search which had been ordered by Switzerland's federal banking commission.

Under revised secrecy laws, Swiss banks are obliged to declare deposits that they suspect may have criminal origins. The regulatory body said in a terse statement that it would examine if the banks had shown "due diligence" in their legally binding search.

US renews airlift as Britain recalls Freetown envoy

By Michael Binyon, Diplomatic Editor, and Lin Jenkins

PETER PENFOLD, Britain's *High Commissioner in Sierra* Leone, and more than 1,200 other foreigners yesterday abandoned the embattled capital and were making their way to neighbouring Guinea on an American warship.

He left, on Foreign Office instructions, as US Marines plucked hundreds of foreigners to safety by helicopter, which took them to the USS *Kearsarge* during a lull in the fighting between Sierra Leone rebels and Nigerian troops. The Nigerian commander of the West African force in Sierra Leone has threatened to bring in bombers and troop reinforcements if the ceasefire breaks down.

Mr Penfold left with the *remaining members of the* British High Commission after repeated vain attempts to persuade Major Johnny Koromah, the coup leader, to step down and reinstate the overthrown President Kammah. The Foreign Office said yesterday that security had so deteriorated in Freetown, where gangs of drunken rebels have been looting and terrorising people at random, that the High Commission could no longer help those Britons who remained.

In a broadcast on the BBC World Service, the Foreign Office gave a warning that there would be no further evacuation and that the High Commission would be closed. It told Britons to make their way to the Cape Sierra Hotel, where they would be taken to safety.

*In some instances, unac*companied children holding British passports were thought safer staying with their Sierra Leone families rather than being evacuated unaccompanied.

At least ten people were carried to the helicopters on stretchers, including one man hooked up to drips. About 100 Marines stood guard and armoured vehicles were deployed in the evacuation zone, *later changed to a beach area* because the hotel became too dangerous.

The American ship evacuated a further 868 foreigners, including 155 British citizens. Reports reaching London said that Major Lincoln Judd, 28, the military attaché, was hit by shrapnel, sustaining head and neck injuries during the fighting around the Mammy Yoko hotel, but did not need surgery and was recovering well.

The ship, which steamed *north from the waters off* Congo to help to evacuate the foreigners, is due to reach Guinea today. Mr Penfold may remain there to see whether things calm down in Sierra Leone. A plane will be sent to bring the other Britons back to London.

*Most had a nightmare jour*ney to safety after being trapped in the basement of the hotel while fighting between the rebels and 50 Nigerian troops guarding the hotel raged outside. The hotel was hit by rocket-propelled grenades and fire broke out on the top two floors. Mr Penfold helped to negotiate a ceasefire by bluff, warning the combatants that they were likely to be bombed by the Americans if they did not stop fighting.

The Ministry of Defence said that as a "precautionary measure" Britain was sending the Royal Fleet Auxiliary ship *Argus* from Gibraltar to help treat casualties.

Estimates of those killed in the past week of fighting range from a dozen to nearly 50. The Americans said they had evacuated almost 2,500 foreigners, including some 430 Americans.

The Nigerians have sent troop reinforcements, and the contingent now numbers *about 3,000 men in Freetown.*

VINCENT YU / AP

A bronze sculpture commemorating the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre goes on show in Victoria Park, Hong Kong. The *Pillar of Shame*, by the Danish artist *Jens Galschiot*, has inscriptions reading: "The old cannot kill the young forever"

Thousands will defy Tung at massacre vigil

From Jonathan Mirsky in Hong Kong

HONG KONG COUNTDOWN

TENS of thousands are expected to take part tonight in what may well be the last demonstration in Hong Kong to mark the Tiananmen Square killings of June 1989.

Despite the advice of Tung Chee-hwa, the Chief Executive-designate, to forget what happened in Beijing eight years ago, *they will hold a* candle-lit vigil in Victoria Park, the city's largest public space. There the crowd will sing and hear speeches reminding them that, in the spring of 1989, a million people turned out in Hong Kong to display their anger at what was happening in the Chinese capital.

Mr Tung observed at the weekend: "No one really wanted June 4 to happen. But over the past eight years, some people have continued to persist *on the issue ... perhaps* they should look forward."

He has also said that legal demonstrations will be allowed; but new laws emphasising "national security" may make them less likely.

Among Hong Kong people, opinions on Mr Tung's advice were divided. The 60-year-old owner of a chemist's shop had demonstrated in memory of Tiananmen before but would not tonight. "It would make foreign investors nervous, make them think Hong Kong *is unstable. Also it's no use. I* agree with Mr Tung. Let's forget the past."

A taxi driver, 53, said: "*The demonstrations are too far* from where I live. If they were nearer, I'd certainly go. We still want democracy and freedom here. C. H. Tung is wrong. Tiananmen was a fact and we can't just forget it."

A girl, 18, said she had always attended vigils with her family. "But this year they won't go. They're afraid something will happen, some kind of chaos. [But] Mr Tung is wrong. We can't forget history."

A messenger, 40, had never *participated and said the dem*onstrations should be banned, adding: "C. H. Tung is right — forget it." A stockbroker, also 40, disparaged Mr Tung's advice, saying that the Chinese also think about Japan's occupation of disputed islands and other historical events. "How can we stop thinking about our past?"

A civil engineer, 50, said: "I have always participated and I will tonight. The Chinese people must know that here in Hong Kong we haven't *given up.*"

Aizuhomare: a crowd puller

Monkey upsets male order

Tokyo: Crowds are surging into Tokyo's main zoo to see girl power at work. The reason for the excitement is Aizuhomare, a female monkey that has broken a 27-year male tradition by taking over leadership of the band of 37 monkeys.

Osamu Ishida, curator of Ueno Zoo, said in its 65-year history there had only been three times when a female became *leader of its band of Japanese macaques.* Each time female rule lasted for less than a year. "It's very rare in a zoo and in the wild for a female monkey to be on top of the heap," Mr Ishida said.

The 20-year-old Aizuhomare, named after a famed Japanese rice wine, fought off challenges by half a dozen younger males to get first choice of titbits from sightseers and grooming privileges from other monkeys. The fight for the leadership was set off earlier this year after the death of Satoimo, a male who had ruled the band.

Mr Ishida said that in the final leadership battle, Aizuhomare "swatted" *the strongest male just after the pair had* mated. "He never recovered, and now Aizuhomare rules," he said.

Among tourists, Aizuhomare's rise is a sign of male weakness. "I'm not surprised," sniffed Mami Kaneko, 25. "Most Japanese men are very weak now."

'Revenge' of HIV woman

Rome: Police in the central Italian town of Modena are investigating the case of a woman alleged to have deliberately infected eight men with HIV (Richard Owen writes).

They said that the woman, 35, *who has not been named*, had turned to "serial killing" when she discovered that the man she had been living with had been unfaithful and was HIV-positive. She faces an attempted murder charge.

Iraqis' British trip called off

By Michael Binyon, Diplomatic Editor

THE Government announced yesterday that it has refused visas to five top Iraqi officials only a day after saying that the men would be allowed to travel to Britain.

The Iraqi delegation, headed by Dr Abdullah al-Takriti, was due to arrive this week to discuss an oil contract with two British companies. Last December, the United Nations allowed limited Iraqi oil sales in return for food and humanitarian aid. Iraqi opposition groups strongly protested against the proposed visit, which would have been the first by senior officials since the Gulf War.

The Foreign Office — correcting an earlier statement *that visas had been issued by* the British Embassy in Amman, the Jordanian capital — said the trip had been cancelled because the men were deemed officials, rather than businessmen. "It is quite legitimate for British companies holding licences to deal with Iraq to speak to Iraqi businessmen. But British policy is to reject applications from Iraqi officials."

Britain has no diplomatic representation in Baghdad, so all Iraqi visa applicants must *travel to Jordan to hand in* their passports in person.

The visit could have embarrassed the Government, especially in light of the emphasis by Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, on human rights.

Outside powers set stage for full-scale war in Afghanistan

By Christopher Thomas, South Asia Correspondent

THE battle for military supremacy in Afghanistan intensified yesterday in strategic towns north of Kabul, the capital, as the country reconciled itself to full-scale war aided by powerful outside forces.

Taleban, the Islamic militia in control of the southern two-thirds of the country, has ordered the Iranian Embassy in Kabul to shut — the first move by the Islamic army against foreign backers of the northern enemy forces led by General Abdul Malik.

This intensifies the regional aspect of the conflict, which is increasingly drawing in countries in Central Asia and beyond in a struggle for influence. Some Central Asian leaders blame Pakistan for the debacle that has effectively left Afghanistan divided, roughly on north-south, Pashtu-versus-non-Pashtu lines.

Thousands of Taleban troops are flowing across the Pakistani border every day to *join the battle north of Kabul*, leaving Pakistan's denial of support for Taleban looking implausible.

Iran is actively involved in *part because of concerns about* the Afghan Shia minority, whose leaders in the Hezb-i-Wahadat party are members of the northern anti-Taleban alliance. Tehran admitted this week that it is giving "humanitarian" assistance to the north — tantamount to declaring support for the northern alliance. Russia also has intensified clandestine military involvement to ensure that Taleban does not establish itself on the Central Asian borders.

Pakistan is determined to keep Kabul in Taleban's hands. Direct involvement by Pakistani troops cannot be ruled out. There has already been some limited involvement by Pakistani servicemen and intelligence agents.

Taleban has accused India of supporting General Ahmed Shah Masood, the Tajik military leader who is leading the anti-Taleban battle north of Kabul, close to his fiefdom in the Panjshir Valley. There is probably validity in this: India is concerned that a Taleban administration in Afghanistan would aid the cause of Islamic fundamentalism in Kashmir.

The northern anti-Taleban forces have never been more powerful, backed by Russian weaponry, Iranian money and the goodwill of Central Asia and India. The battlefront widened yesterday, with the strategic town of Jabul Saraj, north of the capital, taking the brunt. It was captured several days ago by General Masood's forces.

Taleban launched an intensive attack on the town, crucial to its objective of recapturing northern territory, and last night the Islamabad-based Afghan Islamic Press said it had fallen to the Islamic army. Taleban also reportedly captured the important town of Golbahar.

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Auction houses facing anti-trust inquiry

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK'S art world was in uproar yesterday after the federal Justice Department confiscated lorryloads of financial documents from all the major auction houses, including Sotheby's and Christie's.

The New York Times revealed that the art dealers had been served with subpoenas by federal agents investigating allegations of collusion, price-fixing and other unfair auction practices.

The most damaging accusations are of "bid-pooling" or "bid-rigging", a practice that enables dealers to resell works at an exaggerated profit. This is illegal under the Anti-Trust Act. The Justice Department yesterday confirmed that the Anti-Trust Division was looking into the possibility of "anti-competitive practices in the fine art auction industry".

Donald Baker, a former head of the Justice Department's Anti-Trust Division, said: "People in specialised businesses like art don't necessarily think of themselves as subject to the laws that were designed to protect the public against robber barons."

Christie's confirmed that an investigation into unfair practices was under way. It revealed that the Justice Department had subpoenaed it for "documents relating to the conduct of the US art market". It said "other US auctioneers and several prominent New York art dealers have also been required to provide documents".

Sotheby's also confirmed it was among the auction houses subpoenaed. A spokesman said: "We are of course working with the Justice Department in providing the relevant information.

The news is a blow to the prestige of Sotheby's, already hit by the ongoing investigations in Italy and India into the alleged smuggling of paintings and antiquities. The allegations arose earlier this year in a book by Peter Watson, a British reporter, called *Sotheby's: An Inside Story*. A television programme based on his findings was also broadcast, making an embarrassing echo worldwide.

About 25 of New York's best-known fine arts dealers are believed to be under the latest surveillance. The dealers all specialise in Old Masters, the Impressionists and modern American art.

Judge bans inflammatory testimony in effort to avoid Oklahoma 'lynching'

Pressure grows on McVeigh jurors for death penalty

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE jurors who convicted Timothy McVeigh of the Oklahoma City bombing return to court today to decide if he should receive the death penalty for the worst act of terrorism on American soil.

In a mini-trial which could last more than a week, the seven men and five women in the jury will hear further testimony from up to 50 prosecution witnesses who survived the blast or lost relatives when McVeigh's bomb flattened the Alfred P. Murrah building on April 19, 1995, killing 168 adults and children.

The jury will be told of aggravating circumstances, the destruction of lives and families which the prosecution will claim must bring a unanimous decision for the death of McVeigh, 29. In mitigation, the defence is expected to call members of the McVeigh family and James Nichols, whose brother Terry was an army comrade of McVeigh's. Terry Nichols, a co-defendant in the case, faces a separate trial later this summer.

Saying he wanted to avoid "a lynching", Judge Richard Matsch, presiding, said yesterday he would prohibit any testimony that would inflame or incite the jury. "Care must be taken here to ensure that the next phase of the trial be one within proper constraints," he said.

Officers who remember McVeigh from his time as a sergeant in the Gulf War, and his former teachers, will attest to his character and the bravery for which he was awarded a Bronze Star.

Whether the solitary figure will take the stand himself remains uncertain. Throughout his six-week trial, the defence avoided putting McVeigh on the stand and, as state authorities plan a murder suit against him for the 100 non-federal employees killed in the bombing, it seems unlikely that his lawyers' tactics will change now.

Found guilty on Monday of 11 charges, including the murder of eight government workers in the building, McVeigh will need a miracle to avoid the death penalty.

"If ever you were going to impose the death penalty, murdering 168 people more than amply qualifies," said Vivian Berger, a law professor at Columbia University and a defence lawyer in capital trials.

The only other option would be life imprisonment without parole, but there is already growing pressure for the jury to opt for lethal injection at the federal penitentiary in Terre Haute, Indiana. A poll taken after the conviction suggested 61 per cent of Americans demanding capital punishment and calls for the death penalty shortly after the bombing by both President Clinton and Janet Reno, the Attorney-General, have created additional expectation of that result.

Aren Almon, whose daughter, Baylee, died in the children's day-care centre of the building one day after her first birthday, said there should be no mercy. The image of a lifeless Baylee being carried from the debris in the arms of a fireman became a graphic focus of Oklahoma's grief. "You don't take innocent lives and expect your own to be spared," Mrs Almon said. "I want the same justice for him."

Both sides will cite McVeigh's increasing resentment towards the federal Government after the siege at Waco, Texas, in which 80 members of the Branch Davidian cult died.

While the majority of Americans support the conviction, there were already signs yesterday of opposition from militias and other anti-federalist organisations.

White Power, a white supremacist group, closed its site on the Internet in protest at "the devastating sentence handed down on poor Timothy McVeigh". A last message read: "This man will be executed for charges that I feel were never truly proven! The US Government needed to find a scapegoat and McVeigh was their man."

Jury stays out, page 20

JOYCE MARSHALL / AP

Bomb attack survivors and relatives of victims comfort one another after hearing McVeigh found guilty

Sentence 'could speed up executions'

BY TOM RHODES

IF SENTENCED to death, Timothy McVeigh will join a dozen federal prisoners awaiting lethal injection by a government still without its own death row. But it might be some time before a marshal would administer the deadly cocktail of paralytic and sedative drugs to the Oklahoma bomber at the federal penitentiary in Terre Haute, Indiana.

While the appeals process for capital punishment often requires a wait of up to ten years, there is no recent federal-case precedent. The "dirty dozen" convicted of federal crimes are at various stages of the appeal process. The Justice Department is also seeking the death penalty in another 92 cases. A death sentence for McVeigh would be the first under the Clinton Administration's anti-terrorism law and may have a far-reaching effect on the capital punishment system.

The Supreme Court has yet to rule on the law under which he was convicted, the death penalty statute or the regulations by which it should be carried out. His offences became capital crimes under legislation passed in September 1994 in reaction to the World Trade Centre bombing in New York.

A death sentence for McVeigh might speed up the federal process and could provide enough impetus to bring federal death-row prisoners, now housed in separate state prisons, together in one facility. "The likelihood is that a death sentence for McVeigh will legitimate and accelerate the death sentence in these other federal cases," said Paul Dodyk, a New York lawyer who was counsel for David Chandler, a drug lord on death row for federal charges since April 1991.

No civilian has been executed by the US Government in the 34 years since Victor Feguer was hanged for kidnapping in Iowa. Six other federal executions followed the electrocutions of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, on spying charges, at New York's Sing Sing prison in 1953.

There have been 34 federal executions since 1927, including six Second World War spies put to death on one day in 1942 in the Washington DC jail.

Britain urges US to stay in Bosnia

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

GEORGE ROBERTSON, the Defence Secretary, yesterday delivered a fresh warning to the United States about the dangers of premature withdrawal of troops from Bosnia, as tension grows between the Pentagon and the State Department over when to bring American troops home.

Mr Robertson, who maintained that European troops would leave if the US pulled out, also complained of a "pettiness of view" among Bosnian leaders which might squander the "window of opportunity" of the next year while Nato peacekeeping forces are still in place.

In Washington, where Mr Robertson met William Cohen, the Defence Secretary, and congressional leaders, the question of the withdrawal strategy is shaping up to become one of the most controversial of the next year, together with the proposed expansion of Nato. Mr Cohen, the only Republican in President Clinton's Cabinet, has argued repeatedly for an early withdrawal of American troops.

But in London last week, Mr Clinton made clear that, after a six-week review, he had rejected Mr Cohen's position. He pledged to "work like crazy" in the next 13 months before troops are scheduled to leave to implement the Dayton accords aimed at bringing about lasting peace. Madeleine Albright, the Secretary of State, has thrown her weight behind the full implementation of the accords.

On Nato expansion, Mr Robertson claimed that extending the alliance to include Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic would not in itself require more spending. However, the White House, which backs expansion, is set for a bruising fight with Congress on how to foot the bill.

A section of a waterslide in Concord, California, after it collapsed under the weight of teenagers

Waterslide prank ends in tragedy

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

ONE girl died and 32 others were injured, six critically, when a water slide at a theme park east of San Fransisco collapsed, leaving some victims to fall from a height of about 75ft.

The teenagers, who were celebrating their high school graduation, allegedly barged past a lifeguard hoping to break their school record for the largest number to descend the slide in a "human chain".

Water cascading from the broken slide turned red after the accident, witnesses said. Horrified parents and onlookers rushed to help. A few of the teenagers managed to pick themselves up suffering only from bruises and shock.

The rush to one of four "Banzai Pipeline" slides in the Waterworld USA park near Concord was triggered by a loudspeaker announcement for the Napa High School group to return to their buses, according to officials. "This apparently caused the students to rush our lifeguard on the Banzai Pipeline in an attempt to get one last ride in for the afternoon," said a spokesman for the park, which was closed indefinitely yesterday. Visitors were normally only allowed down the slide one at a time.

Russ Tiberio, from San Francisco, saw the accident happen. The glass fibre half-pipe "just cracked and gave way — crack, snap, gone. That fast." Helicopters took the injured to nearby hospitals.

As news of the accident spread, counsellors and church leaders converged on the school in the Napa Valley wine country north of San Fransisco to comfort stunned and weeping pupils returning from what one described as a "textbook nightmare".

General quits 'scandal base' over own affair

Washington: The commander of a US army training base, where instructors have been convicted of having sex with women subordinates, has quit after admitting he committed adultery years ago, military officials said yesterday.

The US Army announced that Major-General John E. Longhouser, 53, will step down as commander of the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland on June 30. A Pentagon statement said he was leaving out of a "desire to spend more time with his family and to pursue other interests after 32 years in the Army".

But a senior military official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, confirmed a report by *The New York Times* that the decision to retire was prompted by an affair that the general had with a civilian while he was separated from his wife in the early 1990s. (*AP*)

Narrow victory for Chrétien bodes ill for Canadian unity

BY TOM RHODES

JEAN CHRÉTIEN, the Canadian Prime Minister, and his Liberal Party clinched a slim victory yesterday in elections that left the political landscape deeply fractured and promised a bleak outlook for national unity.

The Liberals maintained a firm grip in the central heartland, winning 100 of their 151 seats in Ontario, but lost substantially in the booming western provinces.

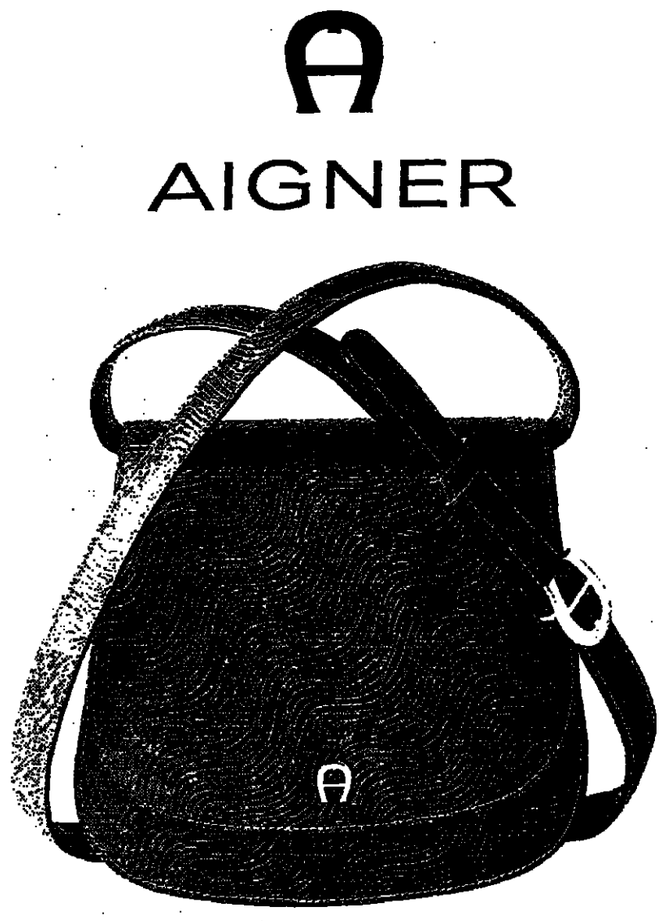
A resurgence by the divided Canadian Right saw the Reform Party win 60 seats in its strongholds of Alberta and British Columbia to become the official Opposition.

The Progressive Conservatives, decimated to just two MPs in the last election, won 20 seats but remained in fifth place behind the separatist Bloc Québécois, which shrank to 44 seats, and the left-wing New Democratic Party, with 21.

Mr Chrétien, who had announced the election 18 months early, had expected an easy re-election to secure a firm mandate for his austerity policies. Instead, the campaign deteriorated into a conflict over national unity.

Two years ago, the last referendum on independence for the largely French-speaking province of Quebec resulted in an embarrassingly close result for Mr Chrétien in which federal loyalists achieved victory by less than one per cent of the vote. The election has produced little practical change.

The Reform Party, led by Preston Manning, 54, the populist son of an Alberta premier and radio preacher, had campaigned on an anti-Quebec platform, arguing that there should be no special privileges of culture or language for the province. Denounced by some as a bigot pushing the country towards civil war, Mr Manning's election as Opposition leader will force other parties to recognise the depth of regional sentiment in Canada.



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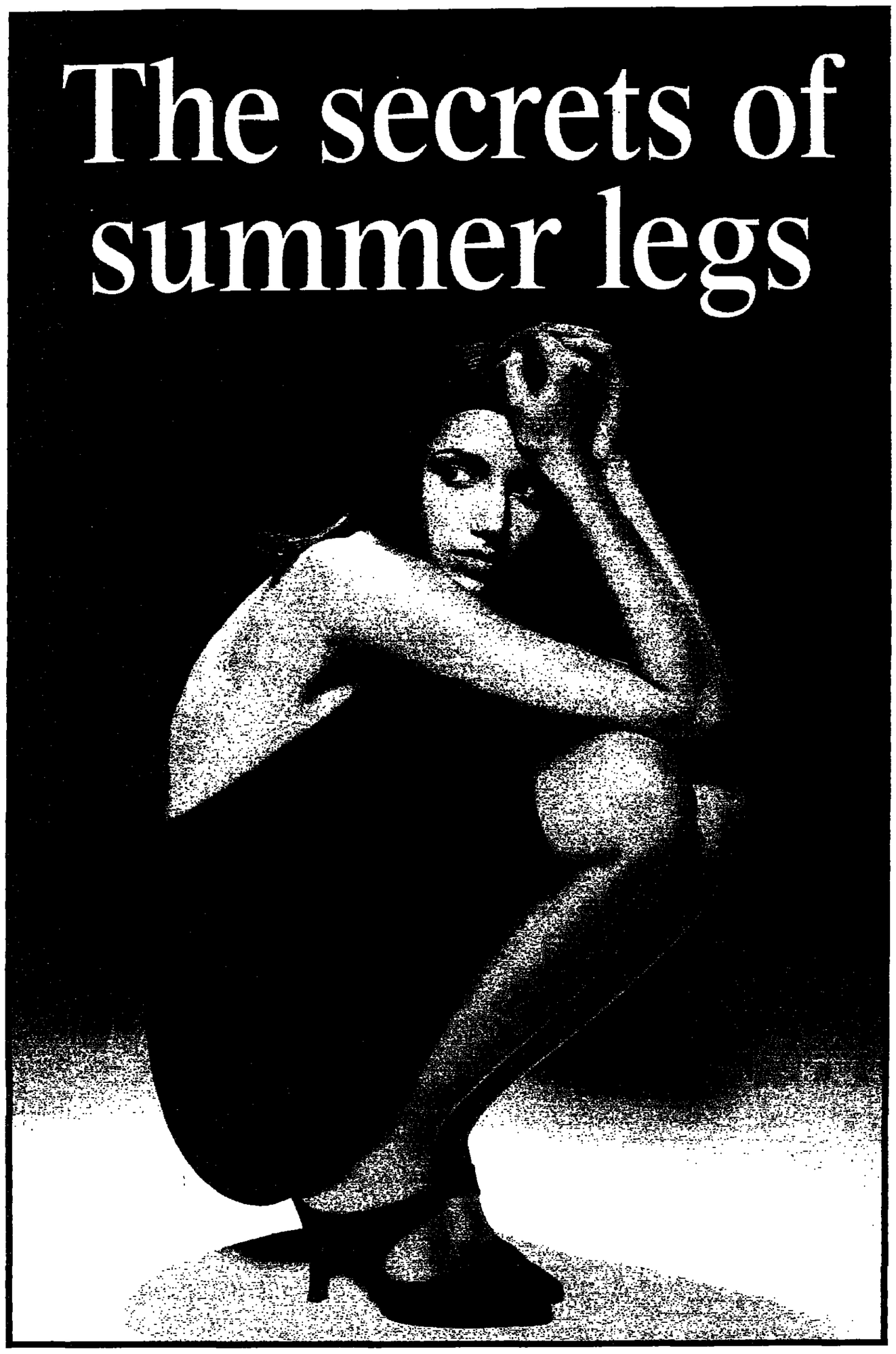
The secrets of summer legs



Long hot days mean long, brown limbs. But how can you avoid the risky informality of bare legs? **Deborah Brett** *on some sheer solutions*

Stylish women are never out of step. And with this summer's focus on footwear, what unites them is their tights. Even in the current heatwave, they understand the unwritten rule that however groomed your legs may be, there is a risky informality in bare legs.

Making the transition between black tights and a summer dress can cause confusion, and the combination of the two is a definite mistake. So, instead of going bare, why not invest in this season's newest range of natural look tights?

Attempting the natural look was, in the past, a nightmare. The denier was so thick that you appeared to be wearing wrinkled brown bandages on your legs, and the only colours available were deathly pale or American Tan. And when it came to wearing open-toed shoes, the thought of a reinforced toe with a thick seam protruding from the front of their sandals sent women running bare-legged in the *other direction*.

But recently the situation has improved, with hosiery companies finally developing legwear that looks and feels natural. In the past, European manufacturers have excelled at providing a large range of colours. Recently, however, the selection in British department stores has grown, and time spent investigating what colour and denier suit your skin tone is time well spent.

Gabriella Di Nora, head of Personal Shopping at Selfridges, is firmly in favour of tights rather than bare legs for summer. "Why the English women, with their delicate skin, massacre their bare feet in shoes I just don't know. Tights are simply a must — *especially when it comes to* anything formal, whether it be work or a special occasion." Her advice is to choose warm flesh and biscuity tones.

This summer, there are countless shades on offer with the most innovative of names, for example, Emotion, Nougat, Hazel and even Gobi (as in the desert). Not only can many of these tights conceal blemishes and minor scars and marks; they can also enhance your colouring and add a slight tan.

Advances in fibre technology, and especially fibre mixes, have meant that tights cover the leg smoothly and retain their shape after repeated wearing. Many also have a high strength denier without appearing any thicker — a great boon to anyone who tends to snag fine tights in the first five minutes or even in the process of putting them on.

Our pictures show natural-looking tights, although there are plenty of glossier options. However, tights with a high shine finish, fashionable three years ago, now seem slightly tired. Trends have moved on to a less artificial look. Another point to bear in mind is that shine makes the legs look fatter, although there are the lucky few with thin enough legs to get away with it.

A gloss finish will pep up an evening outfit — but should *never* be worn with open-toed high strappy sandals. Other summer hosiery mistakes include the fashion pack's continued belief that little girl ankle socks or knee-length pop socks worn with strappy sandals are a viable option.

Depite the arrival of summer, many women feel unable to prise themselves away from the thick, black opaque tights which were so fashionable in the cold winters of the early Nineties. This season Dolce & Gabbana may have gone for a deathly white look and Helmut Lang for block colours in red and black, but neither look can be truly considered stylish when worn anywhere other than the catwalk.

> 'Despite the arrival of summer, many are unable to prise themselves away from thick black tights'

Moving on from last winter's crochet and spider-web styles, Jonathon Aston has created funky versions of skin-coloured legwear, bringing bare-toned fishnets into the mainstream and adding spice to his sheer tights with a shocking pink or turquoise seam and heel. Once regarded as outragous, these now make acceptable office wear.

Legwear companies are also offering the option of hold-up sheer stockings — wonderfully cool in a heatwave, though the anxiety of your hold-ups falling down at an unexpected moment may outweigh their attractions.

Getting legs right this summer is more essential than ever. There is an abundance of different styles of footwear available, from strappy sandals, high and low-heeled mules, to the new wedge heel.

The emphasis is on colour and texture, from suede to wood, raffia, wicker and cork. Legs must therefore remain natural so as not to upstage the shoe. The natural look is not, however, a cheap option. A pedicure and leg wax are essential — there is nothing worse than stubble and broken toe nails poking through sheer legwear.

Best of the season's crop are Marks & Spencer's Natural Tan Pearl Shiny tights — slightly shiny, with a natural look. Sheer Lights by Pretty Polly are a serious contender for the "I can't believe you're wearing tights" award. Originally known as Summer Lights, Pretty Polly has, owing to demand, made them available all year round. They are matte, and despite having a seven denier look, they have 20 denier strength. Colours range from a pale English rose hue to chocolate and there's a shadow toe that provides slight reinforcement without being obvious.

Ultra 5 tights by Aristoc are the finest of the fine, at five denier (though they also come in 10 and 15), and the palette ranges from nude to sunblushed and bare gold. For those who prefer a totally nude look, Aristoc has also brought out Soleil Ultra Sheer in seven denier — an updated version of last summer's tights, with a matte finish, four colour choices and a shadow toe.

For high performance tights at a reasonable price, you can turn to Wolford, which has brought out the 15 Sandal at £12. Designed to be worn with open-toed shoes, these are *made from double-ply Lycra* which combines sheerness with strength.

The finish is matte and comes in four natural skin tones and black. Emotion is for those with pale skin, Cosmetic gives a natural finish, while Gobi gives a sunkissed look. Honey is for those who are already tanned.

The signs for next winter are that leg adornment, Eighties-style, is back, with diamante-encrusted legs by Valentino, neon pink Lycra by Christian Lacroix and tattooed tights by the British design duo Clements Ribeiro.

But while the heatwave lasts, the rule is to keep legs simple but sophisticated. Give the impression that you have dared to bare with this season's secret weapon — the invisible pair of tights.

MAIN PICTURE: Black halter neck dress, £109 by Joseph, 23 Old Bond Street, W1. Natural tan pearl shiny tights, £3.50 by Marks & Spencer. Black crepe high heel mule, £195 by Gina, 189 Sloane Street, SW1

CENTRE: Suedette punch-hole dress, £54 by Jigsaw, 126 New Bond Street, W1. Sandal 15 tights, £12 by Wolford. Cream platform sandal, £95 by Russell & Bromley

TOP RIGHT: Pink viscose jersey dress, £125 by Plein Sud at Whistles, 12-14 St.Christopher's Place, W1. Sheer Lights Golden Glow tights, £3.50 by Pretty Polly. Rainbow wedge sandal, £54.99 by Ravel

Photographs by TIM WHITE
Stylist: Nicola Goldie
Hair and Make-up: Aimee Adams for Estee Lauder
Model: Karine Raymond, Models 1

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Death, where is thy spin?

How we dispose of our bodies is no longer a simple matter, reports **Grace Bradberry**

The British may be renowned eccentrics, but in death it is the Americans who know how to be individual. While for us the choice has always been simple — burial or cremation — they have grappled with such questions as "Should my pet share the grave?" and "Should I blow my children's inheritance on cryonics?"

Now, however, we are catching up. We are finally opening up to the idea that you can be individualistic not only in life but also in death.

We still have some way to go, of course. There have been no British send-offs to rival that of Dr Timothy Leary, the LSD guru, and Gene Roddenberry, the creator of *Star Trek*, whose ashes were recently fired into space on a rocket at a cost of £2,800 each.

But we are not so very far behind. Last month the ashes of one Alan Smith, Viking enthusiast, were pushed out to sea on a replica longboat. And for everlasting suburban bliss, it is now possible to purchase a garden gnome with a compartment for ashes.

Undertakers insist that the majority of British people eschew the downright wacky, but acknowledge that more and more people are planning ahead. There is even some evidence that imagining how one would like to be disposed of has become something of a late 20th-century recreation. The City of London Cemetery, in Manor Park, southeast London, now holds open days: around 10,000 people are expected at the next one.

Prepaid funerals have become common, and the brochure for *Chosen Heritage*, a leading firm, shows an elderly couple smiling as they discuss this very topic. On the opposite page is a helpful chart with ticks below the headings "elite", "popular" and "basic" — aimed at a mass market.

But it is not just the masses who are taking an interest. In a recent edition of *The Field*, the Marquess of Bath declared that he had "no wish to be buried in the family vault. I might not relish the company in which I found myself." Instead, he will be cremated and his ashes divided in two — one part to be disposed of as the family wishes, the other to be sprinkled on either side of the stream that replenishes the lakes at Longleat.

So is a belief in the afterlife gradually being replaced by a fascination with the after-death? Certainly there appears to be a minor publishing boom. A slim book of whimsical musings by the American poet and undertaker Thomas Lynch, entitled *The Undertaking: Life Studies from the Dismal Trade*, currently enjoys a cult following. Lynch, who has a monopoly of business in his small hometown, points out that death is something to be dealt with by those left behind. "Once you are dead, put your feet up," he instructs. "There is nothing that can be done *to you* or *for you* or *with you* or *about you* that will do you any good or harm; any damage or decency we do accrues to the living, to whom your death happens, if it really happens to anyone."

> 'Burial in the garden can cause dissent among the family'

But in an age of personal choice the question "What would he or she have wanted?" hangs over every funeral. And increasingly, what people seem to want is something in tune with the way they lived.

Jason Heath, an undertaker in the Sheffield firm of John Heath & Sons, has had plenty of opportunity to dwell on the options. "I will be buried," he says. "It has less of a conveyor belt image, which is what we're all trying to avoid." Mr Heath has noticed a slight shift towards burial in recent years, with natural woodland sites becoming more popular.

Woodland interment, it seems, is the height of fashion, and to help to fulfil such New Age dreams there is now a natural death movement, a little like the natural birth movement but dealing with dispatch rather than delivery. Its pioneer is a man named Nicholas Albery, one of three psychotherapists who founded the Natural Death Centre, in 1991, to offer help to those who wanted to die at home.

A registered charity, the centre has just brought out *The New Natural Death Handbook* which lists the best burial sites, including one that allows pets. Parrots are free.

"If you get involved before you die, it gives the relatives permission to do something that might be unusual," says Mr Albery. "We advise against burial in the garden because it creates dissension within the family, and with the neighbours." But it is done — notably by Sarah Miles who buried her husband, the playwright Robert Bolt, in the garden of their manor house. He had suggested a pyre, but she feared the house would burn down.

For those who really do not mind living with death, pre-planning has practical advantages. *Heaven On Earth Mail Order*, based in Bristol, offers coffins that will double as bookcases, linen chests and spice racks, until the fateful day when they are needed.

Mr Heath believes that in Britain there is a move towards facing up to death — but to what extent? Catacombs, for example, are a little too morbid for most people. Built here in Victorian times, some London cemeteries are now refurbishing them. But John Luby, superintendent at the City of London Cemetery where there are 900 to spare, says Italian and Greek families request them.

There are also at least two British outlets offering cryonics. Garrett Smyth, co-founder of the British operation of Alcor, an American cryonics company, believes deep-freezing one's body is an insurance policy. "People talk of death being a release," he says, "but it's not if you're enjoying life."

And perhaps it is not only the cryonics enthusiasts who would like to dodge death if they could. Even the *Chosen Heritage* brochure, so earnest in tone, contains a section intriguingly headed "Can I change my mind?"

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The daily grind can be a great liberator; it gives our lives meaning and structure

It is such a useful, inspiring phrase: it's only a pity that the wrong people got to it first. For what Tony Blair was telling us and the inhabitants of Aylesbury estate on Monday was, simply, *Arbeit macht frei*. Whether work does make us free is debatable: Sir Robin Day has argued that work just turns us into wage slaves; it is capital that offers the real freedom. There may be an element of truth in this, but, in my experience and acquaintance, those who don't have to earn their living rarely benefit from it: moneyed indolence is very much more enjoyable than its impecunious counterpart, but except in very few cases just as stultifying and, strangely, confining. Still, the observation is so limited in its application as to be of little comfort to the many.

Work can indeed be the great liberator — not so much for what it gives us, but for what it lets us escape from: ourselves. Unemployment is so depressing because it throws people back on themselves.

In a sense it is the constraint of the workplace that we need. Those who languish, unemployed and at home, are engulfed by the floppy amorphousness of life. Work gives us the illusion of usefulness: without it we can't avoid the pointlessness of it all.

Even if the office, the factory, the building site can't confer freedom, they can seem to, compared with the alternative, which is not much more than to be condemned to house arrest.

We all need work, even those who hate the idea of it, who say they can't be bothered or it's not worth their time. How can one be part of a capitalist society and not feel that one's worth is tied to the job one does? It can't be otherwise. The difficulty is not that so many people are taking the "easy option" of a life on benefit, but that there isn't the work for them to do.

I'm not saying there aren't those who would rather sit at home on the dole than go out and look for work, but the scale of the problem would really emerge only if they decided otherwise. But Mr Blair is right: having large numbers of people unemployed for long stretches of time bears a huge moral, even more than economic, cost.

The fact that it might be a single mother out of work is not really the issue, though to be fair, the Prime Minister wasn't making it the issue, despite the distastefully eager way so many sought to see it in those terms: he was defining what he saw to be the general problem (lack of opportunity, lack of morale) and explaining how he wished to address it in the particular, with specific regard to the housebound single mother on welfare.

That figure herself — focus of blame and hostility for past administrations and a continuingly vocal section of the taxpaying public — is in an impossible situation on this one. If she stays at home to look after her children she is accused of sponging off the State. If she asks for better childcare provisions so that she can go out and earn money herself she is castigated for negligence, for recklessly spawning a generation of latchkey kids.

Nigella Lawson

What so many people choose to ignore when they discuss the iniquities of the unemployed single mum — or perhaps they just don't know it — is that looking after children is much more exhausting and much more difficult than any wage-paying job I can imagine, short of mining coal (not that there's much of that around any more). Perhaps there are people who think that if they have babies on their own — and presumably there are some such — they'll be nicely set up with a cushy life, but boy, must they have an awful awakening.

Mr Blair has more than just the intractable problem of finding people work — he has to make them want to work, to feel that they can. This he recognises: besides being unloved, nothing drains one's confidence more than not having a job. I wouldn't say my identity depended on my work (though to some extent it must have to) but I recognise that my morale does, considerably — though I regard that rather as a weakness.

The strange thing is that that feeling of morale, of confidence, ought to be boosted by having children (after all, it is a useful job and a rewarding, consuming one), but it rarely is. Very few women truly don't suffer a strange dent to their confidence after having a baby; and if that is the case with women safely ensconced in state-approved unions, then think how much more crucifying that sense of diminished self-worth must be in those hissed and booed for bringing a baby into the world.

There is a further problem: these days people are all but divided into those who are out of work and those who are doing the job of about three people. Obviously there is a relationship between the two. But there is something else that links them: both the overworked and the underworked have a life that is incompatible with the sort of secure, family-conscious, community-minded existence that we all — and none more so than Mr Blair — look to so yearningly.

If you haven't got a job or worry that if you don't work all hours you won't have one, how can life be civilised or safe, or indeed anything but anxious and dangerous?

Family life — the English version of the American picket-fence ideal — might be an actual impossibility, but it can't even be a plausible dream without the old certainties that went with it. It's not only that there are no nice safe jobs in the bank any more, but that no one would feel valued for even wanting that kind of life.

In the Eighties, particularly, we looked to America and the can-do society for inspiration, but the trouble with telling everyone that they too could open Stock Shop or become a millionaire entrepreneur is that it can't be true. If one is made to feel that life is worth living only in the fast lane, then it's not surprising that those who are slower and less flash start grinding to a halt.

There is never going to be full employment. Jobs are never going to be secure; tenure is out of the question. So how do you inspire a people with the confidence to *do*, when there is always going to be precious little to be done? As a society, we desperately need the work ethic — from it stems our individual and collective productivity, if not happiness — but the more we invoke it, without the work to back it up, the less self-worth anyone unemployed can have.

We need to foster a society with the widest possibilities and the greatest scope of opportunities. We should do everything to try to ensure that poverty is not self-perpetuating: but for all that, it is very much easier for those from the governing classes to go on about finding satisfaction and stimulation in work: being a lawyer or a legislator is rather more fulfilling, and indeed lucrative, than being a factory-hand. Tony Blair is to be congratulated for trying to face up to this, rather than avoid it. That has to be worth something.

SOMETIMES IT'S EASIER TO TALK TO SOMEONE YOU DON'T LIKE.

When you have a problem, it's the most natural thing in the world to want to talk it through with someone.

Sometimes, though, this creates another problem: who's the best person to confide in?

An obvious choice would be a close friend. But let's face it, we don't always choose our friends for their amazing powers of tact, diplomacy and discretion. Tell one person, and you may end up telling the world.

You may be lucky enough to be able to talk to someone in your family. Then again, you may be one of the large number of people who find talking to your nearest and dearest agonisingly embarrassing.

A girlfriend or boyfriend? If you can, great. But sometimes we don't want to expose our weaknesses to those who fancy us.

And sometimes your relationship is the very problem you want to discuss.

That's where The Samaritans can be useful. We're more discreet than your best mate, we'll listen as carefully as your girlfriend or boyfriend, and we're as sympathetic as your family. We're also non-judgemental, unshockable, and extremely experienced.

Our national number is 0345 90 90 90, and you can e-mail us on jo@samaritans.org or visit our homepage at www.samaritans.org. We're available 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

And you don't have to be climbing up the walls before you call us – any kind of problem, big or small, is a good enough reason to pick up the phone.

Call now. You'll find we're remarkably easy to talk to.

The Samaritans

We'll go through it with you

Alan Coren

■ *Impulsive women with more cheek than scents leave men standing*

What were all the perfumes of Arabia designed to do? Correct. They were designed to sweeten little hands. That they seemed to Lady Macbeth to have fallen at the olfactory hurdle of Duncan's blood was only because she had come off her trolley: her little hands, you may be sure, would have smelt perfectly sweet to anyone else.

They would have smelt, that is to say, feminine. Not female. Lady Macbeth, even as she distractedly mooched the Dunsinane flagstones, would have given off the soft fragrance of roses, or lilies, or lavender, the scents of bowers and arbours and the better class of tub. Vegetable aromas. Nothing animal. For perfume has ever been an accoutrement of romance, deliberately disguising life's meatier exudations, a cosmetic fib among the many, distancing sexual reality rather than confronting it. Perfume is the seasoning of courtly love: it is about beguiling, true, it is about attracting, it is about seducing, even, but so early on in the process as to be virtually innocent, indeed innocently virtuous. It is not about instantly jumping on bones. The male organ it targets is the nose.

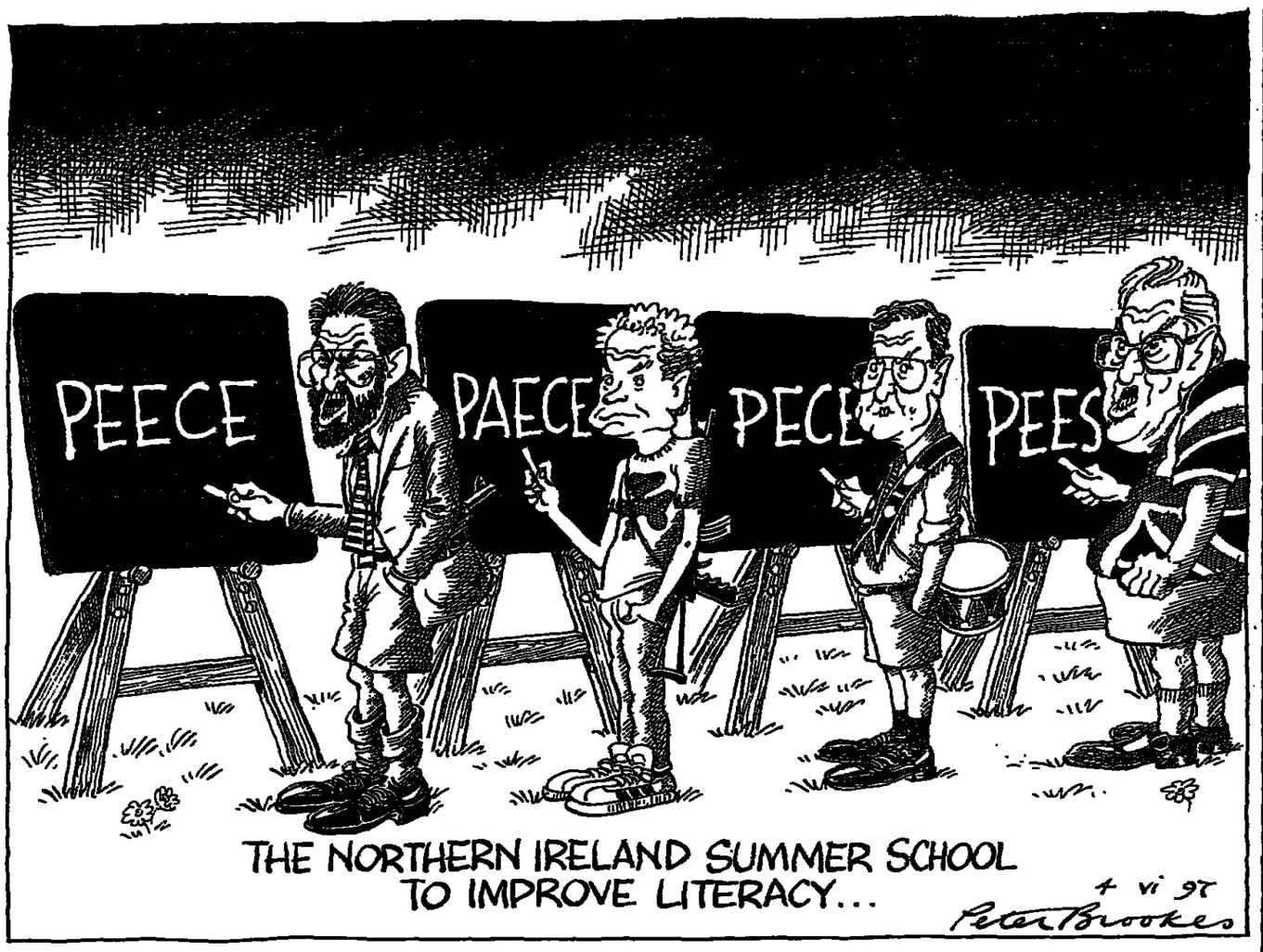
Or was, until last night. Last night, all that changed, and since it changed via nationwide television, then it doubtless changed for ever: because an image was implanted in us which, thanks to image-makers Ogilvy & Mather and the clients who appointed them, will henceforth be ineradicable. Not, mind, that the image presented itself fully; that, sadly, was part and parcel of its power, since by revealing neither part nor parcel, the advertisement encouraged the viewing imagination to engage itself even more graphically than graphics could have done.

Here's what happened: a fetching young woman walked into a life class where a group of artists was painting a male model. The woman was wearing a neat outfit, but the male model was not wearing anything at all. Since, however, we were not seeing him from the front, there was nothing to get het up about. Until it transpired that the young woman was wearing not only the neat outfit we could see, she was also wearing something we could not see. Indeed she was, quite literally, transpiring it: for it was a perfume, called Impulse, though we learnt this only after we had learnt that it was, after all, something to get het up about, since het up was exactly what the male model had apparently got.

Apparently, because we could not see him from the front. His front was obscured. It was an occluded front. That it was also a rising front we were able to elicit only from the reaction of the young woman in front of him: her eyebrows, such is the subtlery of the advertiser's art, rose in harmony. Followed by the slogan — you guessed? — "Men can't help acting on impulse".

A new message about perfume, then; but then again, much more than that. Impulse, it would appear, though it didn't quite, does things to men, willy-nilly. The male model could not help himself. The thing was beyond his control. Which means that last night's fleeting half-minute has done far more than merely dismantle in a trice the delicate daisy-chain of romance, leaving one solitary link between man's two chief protuberances; far more than rewrite forever the language of scent so that there will never again be any question at all as to why women slosh it on or why men buy it for them: far more even than introduce a bizarre speculative element into any future mixed gathering, large or small. It has, above and beyond the call of all these messages, sent one into this imperfect world so ramified that one can only clutch at the bookshelves for support, and whimper.

Now, were I whatever the male equivalent is of a feminist, I might well grow furious at the message that there is out there an essence, one sniff of which will deprive a man of all control over his sexual actions: but as I am not, and as, for some, there may even be the odd social boon in all this, I shall hold my peace. Leaving it to occur to those with a homonymic bent that it might not be a bad move on President Clinton's part to ring his lawyers right this minute and invite them discreetly to discover whether Paula Jones was wearing perfume at the time.



In place of Stormont

Memo to Mr Blair: Ulster's leaders need not go to South Africa to learn reform — only to Belfast City Hall

Simon Jenkins

Milner would have been aghast. Lugard would have cheered. Palmerston would have fallen off his chair. Politicians from the United Kingdom, mother of democracies, last week took their domestic quarrels to the Dark Continent for guidance. Palefaces from the Bogside and the Shankill, festooned in shamrocks, bowlers and orange sashes, sat attentive at the feet of those their forebears would have dismissed as barbarians.

Explaining the South African path to conflict resolution, Nelson Mandela told the Ulstermen to renounce their tribal ways and behave like Christians and democrats. Aha, cried the delighted visitors, how wise is this great personage. They returned to Belfast and duly resumed their tribal ways. But they did not wash the hand that had shaken that of Mandela.

Last week's visit by Ulster politicians to South Africa was a suitably daft preliminary to yesterday's reopening of the multiparty talks at Stormont. These are now a joke no less sick for being familiar. Senator George Mitchell flies in to act as compere. He peers through his "window of opportunity" and urges urgency. Sinn Fein/IRA plants a bomb, demands access to the talks and is duly refused. The Unionist factions squabble over procedure and one or more walks out. British ministers scale new heights of platitude and cliché. Absolutely nothing is achieved.

This has been going on not for 25 hours, 25 days or 25 weeks, but for 25 years. For 20 of those years I have visited every Secretary of State and heard him parrot the same briefing about time running out. Yesterday the once down-to-earth Mo Mowlam recited the briefing on radio, its verbatim phrases dropping from her lips and gasping to be put out of their misery: "Parties must realise the present urgency ... listen to the vast, peace-loving majority ... rebuild confidence after the events of the past weekend [ever thus] ... meaningful and unequivocal ceasefire ... settlement train leaving station ..."

Tony Blair entered office last month with the same admirable intentions as all his predecessors. The presentation was superb. Mr Blair visited Ulster. He smiled. He told the Protestants there would be no Irish unity in his lifetime. He told the Republicans he was sorry for the Irish Famine and would order immediate "clarification" talks between Sinn Fein/IRA and his officials (who surely need no clarification). He charmed everyone and offended everyone in traditional Anglo-Irish fashion.

Since then the IRA has tried to blow up an army unit and a loyalist gang has killed a policeman. Ms Mowlam duly cancelled clarification and asserted that there is "no question" of Sinn Fein attending Stormont talks. There is now talk of excluding some loyalist politicians and even banning some of their parties. Ms Mowlam has taken to Ulster's *ancien régime* like a duck to water.

The famous train leaving the station metaphor was one much favoured by Lord Prior in the mid-Eighties and more recently by John Major. The image is of an Orient Express furiously getting up steam, its passengers high on champagne and the prospect of ministerial office. Famous politicians come to see them off. Money is everywhere. Left on the platform are the leaders of Sinn Fein, tears of disappointment pouring down their faces. If only they had agreed to a ceasefire ...

The metaphor is splendid, yet ludicrous. The train never moves. The signal is stuck at red. The reason is always the same. After 25 years of waiting for "the men of violence" to throw down their weapons, nobody can face leaving without them. The enemy has become one of the party. Participants such as John Hume and Ian Paisley have been on and off the train for a full quarter century. Talks about talks are their lifeblood. This is the longest-running show since the Congress of Vienna.

Mr Blair must know that the Stormont talks are a farrago. Mr Major was praised for his bravery in talking to the IRA and thus enticing them into a temporary ceasefire. It was possibly a gamble worth taking. But when the IRA predictably refused to "decommission" their weapons, when the Unionists refused to talk to them as a result, and when both talks and ceasefire duly collapsed, British policy again ground to a halt. By granting the IRA de facto right of veto on progress, successive British Governments have granted violence a veto on democracy.

Sinn Fein/IRA revel in the leverage accorded them. Had the IRA handed over their weapons stockpiles two years ago, they would now be democratic nobodies, a minority within a minority at a Stormont assembly. The Unionists would have been in the ascendant, with David Trimble as provincial Prime Minister sharing power (I believe briefly) with Sinn Fein's hated rivals, the SDLP. There would have been no united Ireland. For the IRA a century-old blood feud would have ended in defeat, though before long Stormont would again have collapsed.

Sir Patrick Mayhew, as Secretary of State, forestalled that. The talks process, with Sinn Fein/IRA always on the brink of a new ceasefire, acquired the secret of eternal life. The IRA Army Council returned to centre stage, making Senator Mitchell dance to its tune. The past two years have brought more electoral support to the IRA and their politics of partial exclusion than anything in two decades.

The only way forward is for the talks to stop. Nobody at Stormont has any incentive to seek a settlement on the present basis. Britain is giving £6,000 in subsidy each year to every family in Northern Ireland. The Province is a vast welfare dependency. Senior politicians, like British ministers, have jobs, salaries and status at risk. Stormont, the embodiment of all that is most rotten in Northern Irish history, is sitting waiting once again to polarise and wreck democratic accountability in the Province.

I cannot believe that Mr Blair is being taken in by talk of "another" IRA ceasefire. Nor can I believe he really wants to revive a Stormont Assembly, proven at two attempts (under Sir Edward Heath and Margaret Thatcher) to have failed as a model for devolved regional government. The IRA will never renounce violence to the satisfaction of militant Unionism. Yet they will be satisfied only by a constitution that the Unionists cannot accept.

The train must leave the station and for a destination determined by the British Government. The local parties may accept or amend, but not reject that destination. A new constitution must devolve power to counties and cities, where power-sharing already exists and where local communities can co-operate in running their own affairs away from the glare of Stormont. Much civil rights regulation would be needed. Limited functions such as security must remain with a direct-rule administration.

Last week, while the leaders of the nine principal parties were holding separate "apartheid" sessions in a South African hotel, their juniors in Belfast were enacting everything that the talks process has failed to achieve. Unionists and nationalists of all stripes were preparing to swear in the first nationalist Mayor of Belfast, Alban Maginness. At local government level, Northern Ireland's communities are willing to sit round tables, talk and co-operate. It is only the pestilential atmosphere of the "peace process" that holds them implacably apart. Power-sharing works, but never at Stormont.

Northern Ireland's leaders need not go to South Africa to learn political reform. Down the road to Belfast City Hall is far enough. Indeed, if South Africa has any lesson to teach divided societies, it is that they are best left to sort out their own differences without the intervention of conciliators, outside governments or the international peace industry. South Africa's internal settlement, made entirely on its own, remains history's best advertisement for ostracism.

This whole business is about local government. There is an alternative to the Stormont nonsense. It lies in devolving administration below the level of Northern Ireland as a whole. The sooner Mr Blair realises this and starts the train in this direction, the easier he, and Northern Ireland, will sleep at night.

US justice is still in the dock

Tim Hames says McVeigh's trial was just for show

As Timothy McVeigh waits to see if a Denver jury will spare his life, American lawyers line up to argue that his conviction has saved the reputation of their profession. Legal commentators have rushed in front of television cameras to claim that all the sins associated with the trial of O.J. Simpson have disappeared with the decision of 12 good citizens.

They should be sued for malpractice. The McVeigh trial has proved little except that the jury remains out on American justice. The content of the two cases were so different as to make comparison absurd. In so far as any lessons can be drawn, they reinforce not repudiate those learnt in Los Angeles.

In substance, almost everything about the McVeigh and Simpson trials differed. McVeigh is an unknown drifter, Simpson a national celebrity. In McVeigh's case, the prosecution never succeeded in producing evidence that directly linked him to the scene of the crime. They could, however, prove that he had access to the means of murder and demonstrate, through his burning hatred of the federal Government, a powerful motive. In the Simpson situation, the scientific evidence at the scene of the crime (if accepted) was overwhelming, but a murder weapon was never discovered; even prosecutors conceded that the time available to commit the crime was tight, and the motive remains uncertain.

The O.J. trial consumed some 120 days, but required little more than four hours to produce an unexpected acquittal. The McVeigh affair absorbed only 25 days, but the jury deliberated for 23 hours — far longer than had been expected — before returning the verdict that the American public had all but demanded. Simpson's prosecutors decided not to seek the death penalty for fear that jurors would shy from a verdict that might send him to death row. In McVeigh's case there was no such calculation. President Clinton had all but promised that execution would be demanded and lethal injection is the most likely sentence.

The authorities took few chances in McVeigh's prosecution. They were determined both to secure a conviction and to ensure that a fair trial was presented. For that reason, McVeigh was first charged in the federal courts — not Oklahoma, where another trial will follow later — and accused of murdering only the eight government employees present in the Alfred P. Murrah Building when it was blown up, killing 168 people.

That allowed the trial to be moved to Denver. It also placed matters in the hands of an experienced Federal Judge, Richard Matsch, who decided that television cameras would be excluded and that defence claims of a wider conspiracy were irrelevant and therefore inadmissible. That was an absolutely vital judgment. Many would maintain that one man and a partial accomplice could not have masterminded such an elaborate act of terrorism. Even if further scrutiny did not exonerate McVeigh, it might have shed more light on the events of April 19, 1995. As it was, the defence was forced to operate on much narrower terrain. Although it was widely acknowledged that the FBI had made serious mistakes in dealing with the forensic evidence at the heart of this case, the defence team never exploited that incompetence.

All this is at complete odds with the Simpson trial. Had Judge Lance Ito followed the McVeigh formula then the racial dimension of the defence case would have been thrown out of court. The private prejudice of Detective Mark Furhman would also have been discarded. As it was, those factors swiftly took centre stage. O.J. Simpson's expensive legal team could hire expert opinion that exploited the failings in forensic evidence to the full. Television would never have entered the equation. In short, the trial itself, not merely the circumstances, would have been entirely different.

Similarly, the drama in Denver might well have taken on a different character if the circumstances in California had been replicated. The whole process would certainly have been longer. Television would have permitted an outing to the many conspiracy theories that surround the bombing. The defence could have exploited undoubted holes in the prosecution. If money had been no object, then numerous professors could have been found to dispute the quality of evidence found in the aftermath of the explosion.

None of this is to suggest that Timothy McVeigh is an innocent man brought down by a determined legal establishment. The evidence against him, although circumstantial, was extremely powerful. But in many ways it was no better and possibly worse than that which faced O.J. Simpson. In both cases the rules of engagement and the resources available to the defendant were extremely significant aspects of the ultimate outcome.

The American judicial system has not been "redeemed" by this verdict. All that has been shown is that, in the right circumstances, a verdict can be obtained that chimes with mainstream opinion. Neither Washington nor the states can, or should, do much about the relative wealth of defendants. However, there is much that could be done to ensure that trials focus more firmly on the core evidence and less on the rules by which events proceed. The McVeigh verdict may legitimise complacency and defer long overdue reform.

Ace of clubs

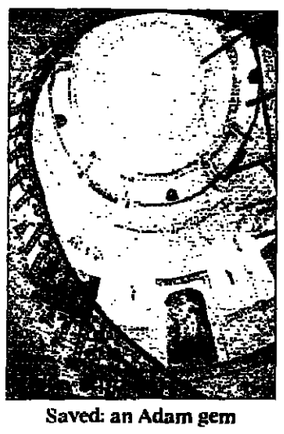
AFTER ten years of neglect, there is hope for Home House, the former premises of the Courtauld Institute in Portman Square and the finest Robert Adam townhouse in London. Negotiations are at an advanced stage to turn the Grade I listed building into a private members' club, planned as a cross between the Garrick and the Groucho and offering full membership to both sexes.

Viscount Portman, who owns the building as part of his £350 million property empire in central London, has apparently given his blessing to the idea and English Heritage is studying the proposal.

Masterminding the plan is the full-bodied Brian Clivaz, who nimbly slipped out of his job as manager of Simpson's-in-the-Strand recently to devote all his formidable energy to it.

Yesterday Clivaz refused to talk about his scheme, but multimillionaire backers and famous names are said to be behind the project.

Trenchermen, cigar smokers and chess players will be welcomed among the lady members. Spies, too, are likely to make an appearance, for the club is planning to capitalise on one of building's more notorious former inhabitants: Anthony Blunt had a flat there on the top floor.



Saved: an Adam gem

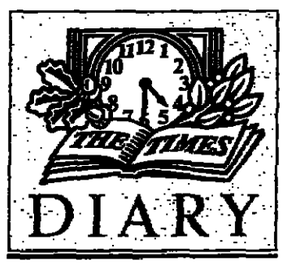
● *A momentous decision has been taken at Clarence House, where Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother still reaches for her* Sporting Life *with the eagerness of a schoolgirl for her copy of* Bunty. *For the first time, she has sent one of her horses to be trained in France. Fireball, the four-year-old gelding at François Doumen's yard near Chantilly, is said to be appreciating the cuisine.*

Cook's tour

ROBIN COOK's visit to Rome yesterday proved to be an eye-opener: he had never before visited the Eternal City. Understandably excited before his journey, Cook instructed his office to phone ahead and ask whether he could squeeze in a spot of sightseeing.

"Of course," replied embassy officials in Rome with the stunned look of diners who had been slapped in their faces with a pizza. "We presumed that he must already have visited Rome."

"Thirty-two mph! It's just as I thought!"



So, before meeting the Prime Minister Romano Prodi and the Foreign Minister Lamberto Dini, Cook was taken on a small tour with our Ambassador. He marvelled at the Colosseum and then stopped off at a restaurant on the Piazza Navona in front of Bernini's famous fountain. Looking sticky in the heat, he spurned the restaurant's famous tartufo ice-cream dish and opted for a very new Labour *aqua minerale*.

Last word

FIFTY years after the publication of his book *The Last Days of Hitler*, Hugh Trevor-Roper, now Lord Dacre, has read the German reviews. The book came out in Britain in March, 1947, and by the winter of 1947-48 was in libraries in Germany set up by the British Occupation authorities.

According to library records and readers' comments just discovered among Foreign Office documents, the book was very popular with German readers. Most were deeply appreciative of a non-German account of the war, though some complained that if the British knew Hitler was so awful, why did they do so little to stop him earlier on? A few took Trevor-Roper to task for his high style, though as he writes in the latest *Salisbury Review*: "After fifty years, I can digest these criticisms. But vanity (a more lasting emotion) still enables me to relish the dewdrops. I am happy that even at such a time so many German readers found the book to be 'objective', 'fair', and undistorted by hate: in other words as I intended it to be, history, not propaganda."

A new leaf

STRETCHERS and sal volatile are in order for the elderly audience of *Pebble Mill at One*, with news that their host, the clean-living Alan Titchmarsh, has written a sex and shrubbery novel. Published next year, it will be his first novel, and will be called *Mr Macgregor*.

Titchmarsh: growth industry

Titchmarsh also presents *Gardeners' World* and is said to have the sort of looks to drive women into the potting shed with a cold compress.

His book will be a satire in which a daytime television gardening programme suffering from plummeting ratings hires the dashing Rob Macgregor. He saves the show and becomes a housewives' sex symbol, then begins a steamy affair with a newsreader until his longstanding girlfriend finds out. Titchmarsh's agent describes the book as a "very sexy, very spicy number".

P·H·S

BLUNT INSTRUMENTS

For Labour, saving on debate now must mean paying later

What are Parliaments for? The demand for a parliament in Scotland springs from the widespread sense that Scotland *is currently* governed, through the Scottish Office, with insufficient democratic scrutiny and inadequate constitutional *safeguards*. There is, then, a certain irony in the paving legislation for the Scottish parliament, and the Welsh assembly, being *hurried* through the House of Commons with a procedural device which curtails scrutiny and impedes the insertion *of safeguards*. Labour's decision to guillotine debate on its Referendum Bill may have precedents and add to the impression of *dynamism; but on this issue* the Government has hit highly disputed ground and is running away from the tough questions.

The Government, with more than 80per cent of Scotland's MPs and a clear commitment to change, is understandably *impatient to legislate for devolution. It is even* more understandably, disinclined to take lectures in constitutional proprieties from a *party with no MPs in Scotland* or Wales and which has itself used the guillotine to slice Parliament's powers. That does not, *however*, mean this Government can proceed as it pleases. Bills which change the shape of the constitution are of a different *order to Bills which alter class sizes.*

The Government argues that the Referendum Bill is not a major piece of constitu*tional legislation*, simply a way of creating a device to test opinion. The Government also believes that many of the amendments tabled to its short Bill are simply vexatious, or snares designed to allow filibustering. This is true but only partly true.

But establishing a precedent for the use of a pre-legislative referendum — especially, as is the case in Scotland, one with two questions — is hardly a minor matter. The passage of the Referendum Bill will alter the constitution and deserves proper scrutiny.

Many of the questions that are now being asked of the Government relate specifically *to the referendum and are not premature* auditions of arguments on devolution.

It is legitimate to debate why only those resident in Scotland and Wales should vote when the entire kingdom will be affected by the result. It is not self-evident why Scotland and Wales should have different questions or why Scots should be asked to vote simultaneously on the principle of a parliament and then whether that parliament should have tax-varying powers. Finally, Parliament might ask why, when even the meanest golf club requires more than a mere majority to change its constitution, the United Kingdom can be recast by a simple majority of a tiny minority?

Labour can use its majority to ensure that the Commons does not have the chance to debate these matters in full. But the Lords should not feel constrained meekly to acquiesce. The precedent for aristocrats submitting to guillotines is not happy. If Labour wants its legislation to run on time then the Lords have every right to insist the Government give a commitment that the substantive legislation on devolution is debated in full on the floor of the Commons.

The Scottish Secretary, Donald Dewar, has already, ominously, said that the right result in the referendum would give the Government the "moral authority to speed the passage of devolution". He is wrong. If the Referendum Bill is being sped through Parliament now on the basis that it is a procedural matter, then adequate time must be made available later for the substantive arguments. Victory in the referendum will only give the Government the authority to introduce a Bill, not smuggle it past scrutiny. By deploying the guillotine now, the case for quick passage of the Devolution Bill has become a casualty.

RIGHTING READING

British children could and should be more literate

Standards of literacy in this country are shockingly low. Only half of all 11-year-olds reach the level that virtually all should be able to achieve. Without the basic ability to read and write, children of that age cannot cope with secondary school and may then be blighted for life.

So it is encouraging that the Government is concentrating so hard on the three Rs — and particularly on remedial education for the long tail of underachievers in our school system. Yesterday Stephen Byers, Minister for Standards, launched a pilot scheme of literacy summer schools for those who are a couple of years behind their reading age at 11. Pupils will have intensive tuition with some individual attention and a healthy injection of fun alongside the work.

For many children who are lagging at this age, such summer camps could make the difference between an easy and a difficult transition to secondary school. The move from a small primary school to a huge secondary can be traumatic enough without the alienation of being unable to follow the lessons properly. Too many children drop out at this stage and turn to truancy and *crime. A network of summer schools could* help to motivate many underachievers. But there is still the problem of the bottom 20 per *cent who are too far behind* to catch up with just two weeks of intensive help. Their problems need to be addressed far earlier in *their school careers.*

At seven, the disparity between the highest and lowest achievers is far smaller than at *11. In the seven-year-old tests, only 20 per* cent of pupils fail to achieve the results expected for their age. This percentage *doubles by the end of primary school.*

In New Zealand, a concentration on literacy has enabled 80 per cent of children to read well through normal teaching. A further 15 per cent catch up after an intensive Reading Recovery programme starting at six. Only 5 per cent still have reading problems by the end of primary school.

Britain needs to improve both the general teaching of literacy and the remedial effort put into those who fall behind. Mr Blunkett's emphasis on phonics, in which children are taught the relationship between letters and sounds, and his advocacy of a "literacy hour" in school each day, should help to improve the skills of the majority. Then the minority needs to be addressed.

First, teachers need to understand why children fail to learn to read. Although there is some correlation between test results and deprivation, there is still a huge variation between schools with a similar social intake. So, for instance, primary schools with the most deprived pupils range from a 70 per cent success rate at 11-year-old English tests to 0 per cent. Poverty and lack of parental *support* have become alibis behind which ineffective teachers and schools learn to hide. But with good teaching, most children from *any social background* can succeed.

As well as being offered remedial help, underachievers could benefit from a less rigid obsession with chronological age. Tony Blair has already suggested that able children should be accelerated through school. *The converse should be allowed for those* who need more time to grasp the basics. In many continental countries, children who fall behind are expected to repeat a year. If this were done here at the age of seven, more children would leave primary school with the critical skills necessary to cope with the next stage of their life.

ROME IS NOT DONE IN A DAY

But a good way to start is at ease with a tartufo

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, met his Italian counterpart, Lamberto Dini, in Rome yesterday. They discussed the high diplomacy of the European Union. But before their meeting, Mr Cook enjoyed the *even* higher experience of his first visit to Rome. He sat in Tre Scalini, the old pastry-shop, home of the tartufo Nerone (the chocolate *ice-cream shaped* like the breast of an Amazonian Venus), watching the crowds milling around the Piazza Navona with its baroque fountains and *stalls of trinkets.*

All roads do not lead to Rome, except metaphorically. But every road in Rome leads to eternity. The Piazza Navona is its peculiar shape and size because it is built above *Domitian's* stadium, which could accommodate 30,000 spectators. Almost as many still flock there in June. And 19 centuries ago satirists taunted *Domitian* for his taste for ice-cream, suggesting that that sabre-toothed Emperor also had a sweet tooth.

Mr Cook's first entry into *Rome* was a better way to start than the 30-minute tour of the Vatican or the Disneyfied Esperienza Romana. Others might have chosen to enter through the Forum and up the Palatine for an *emperor's-eye-view* of the city. Edward Gibbon found the project for his life's work musing amidst the ruins of the Capitol, while the bare-*footed* friars were singing vespers in the Temple of Jupiter.

However one enters, a first meeting with Rome is a climax. Or sometimes an anticlimax. For indeed Rome was not built in a day: it just looks like it. Andy Warhol said that Rome is an *example of what happens* when the buildings in a city last too long. Rome reminded James Joyce of a man who lives by exhibiting to travellers the corpse of his grandmother. On his first visit, Dickens saw Rome as an inferior version of London, with a building site around one big dome. And in *Inside Mr Enderby*, the irascible middle-aged poet who was a projection of the author, Anthony Burgess, said Rome was a vastly overrated city: "It trades on belief just as Stratford trades on Shakespeare."

A commoner reaction to the first Roman holiday is that of Horace catching sight of *his prospects* up the Appian Way. Or of Henry James, who spent his first day reeling and moaning through the streets in a fever of enjoyment. "*I traversed almost the whole* of Rome and got a glimpse of everything — the Forum, the Coliseum (stupendissimo!), the Pantheon, the Capitol, St Peter's, the Column of Trajan, the Castle of St Angelo — all the piazzas and ruins and monuments."

Horace, a man for a tartufo, would have been a less exhausting companion. The *Eternal* City is not going to disappear. So there is enough there to last a lifetime. A sound recipe for good tourism anywhere is to say agree *that when in Rome one should* do as the Romans do. Reeling and rushing around trying to see it all on the first day is a programme for bad temper and headache. But the man who goes to Rome as a tourist can return as a lover. Yesterday, Mr Cook may have started a life long romance of discovery, and not just of EU monetary policy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Effects on euro of French election

From the Chairman of the Labour Euro Safeguards Campaign

Sir, Surely, after the French elections, the "wait and see" policy of both the present Government and its predecessor on the question of Britain joining the single currency should now be abandoned.

The Maastricht treaty convergence criteria and the efforts made to meet *them have not only, as Anatole Kalet*sky points out today, helped to inflict and maintain unacceptably high levels of unemployment on the two architect nations, France and Germany (see also leading article, "Bastille Day"), but have led to the fudging and fiddling of national financial accounts in both countries, and in Belgium and Italy as well, in a truly disgraceful way.

Now, as Sunday's massive rejection of France's pro-single currency Government has shown, it is also proving to be a potent source of political instability. All these adverse consequences have occurred in the run-up to a single currency. Once achieved, a single currency would make things worse. Not only would deflation be institu*tionalised in Western Europe, but its* baneful effects would be enhanced by the severe fiscal penalties and fines to be imposed on defaulting nations by the stability pact which will come into force the moment the single currency is adopted.

The pursuit of folly over so long a period and in the face of such deleterious effects needs some explaining.

But we know the answer. The single currency is not about the economy, it is about politics, and above all the massive enterprise which, for their different reasons, Chancellor Kohl, President Mitterrand and the Commission President Delors launched nearly a decade ago, to create a European state.

A single currency does indeed make such a state inevitable. And it is precisely because our people do believe in self-government that we must not and *will not join.*

Yours faithfully,
PETER SHORE
(Labour MP, 1964-97),
c/o House of Commons.
June 3.

Silver lining

From Mr Bryan Cassidy, MEP for Dorset and East Devon (European People's Party Parliamentary Group (Conservative))

Sir, The result of the French election is not all bad news. If French Socialists can romp back to power after sustaining a crushing defeat four years ago which left them with only one fifth of the seats in the Chamber of Deputies, why shouldn't the Conservatives be able to achieve the same feat at our next general election?

Yours faithfully,
BRYAN CASSIDY,
135 Hankinson Road,
Bournemouth, Dorset.
June 2.

Advisers at No 10

From the Minister without Portfolio

Sir, I am grateful to Sir Brian Barder (letter, June 3) for putting into its proper context Sue Cameron's argument over the meetings which I chair each morning in the Cabinet Office ("Mandelson and the new mandarins", May 30).

Ms Cameron was concerned that the presence of Alastair Campbell, Jonathan Powell and special advisers working for John Prescott, Gordon Brown and Robin Cook represented an eclipsing of the politically neutral Civil Service. Even if this were so (which it is not) she failed to mention that these meetings are also attended by, and receive active contribution not only from Alex Allan, the Principal *Private Secretary at 10 Downing* Street, but also an official from my office, a representative of the Cabinet Secretary, Sir Robin Butler, and Alastair Campbell's deputy, a career civil servant.

So in personnel terms they are really little different from the meetings chaired by Michael Heseltine, though they are, thankfully, more ef*fective and decisive.*

Yours faithfully,
PETER MANDELSON,
Cabinet Office,
70 Whitehall, SW1.
June 3.

Drivers' mobile phones

From Mr Alan Wells

Sir, Concern about drivers' use of mobile phones is reasonable and justified (report and leading article, May 1; reports, May 20, 21); but the police, who are supportive of these concerns and also responsible for monitoring driving performance, should set an example by putting their own house in order.

Too often one sees in busy urban areas the driver of a police patrol car using a hand-held radio. To do so when responding to an emergency *using blue lights and siren must* surely increase the danger to themselves and other road users. The *consequences can be fatal.*

Yours faithfully,
ALAN WELLS,
5 York Road, Ashford, Kent.
May 22.

Proper role for a teaching council

From the General Secretary of the Professional Association of Teachers

Sir, I would agree wholeheartedly with Dr Martin Stephen that "the *Government's promise of a General* Teaching Council must mean the creation of a professional organisation to control teaching and to have some say on standards in the profession" ("Who respects teachers?", Education, May 30), but I would take issue with his comparison with the British Medical Association.

The body within the medical profes*sion that a General Teaching Council* should be compared with is the General Medical Council, not the BMA. The one thing that it should not be is some kind of new super trade union for teachers, or the reincarnation of the Burnham committee; it needs to have entirely different functions from those quite properly exercised by the existing teacher trade unions.

Among the duties of a General Teaching Council would be:

1 To keep under review the standards *of entry to the teaching profession.*

2 To consider matters relating to the supply of teachers, other than remu*neration or conditions of service, and* to make recommendations on these to the Secretary of State.

3 To *recommend to the Secretary of* State criteria for accreditation of institutions for teacher training.

4. To establish and keep a *register of* qualified persons suitable as teachers.

A role of this nature would, I suggest, create Dr Stephen's "professional organisation to control teaching and have some say on standards in the profession".

Yours faithfully,
JOHN R. ANDREWS,
General Secretary,
Professional Association of Teachers,
Friar Gate, Derby.
June 2.

From Mr Jeremy Woodhouse

Sir, Having spent a career teaching history in schools, I fully endorse Martin Stephen's historical analysis of the low status of the teaching profession in English society.

But I do not agree with his implication that teaching is, in comparison *with industry, not the "real world"*. This apologetic cliche in turn implies acceptance of an inferior status, which is exactly what Dr Stephen wants to overcome. The demands of teaching a class of pupils are fully as real as those of, say, leading a platoon of TA soldiers on exercise.

I doubt if an industrial manager would come away from a week in the *classroom feeling that he (or she) had* not experienced reality.

Yours sincerely,
JEREMY WOODHOUSE,
Gypsy Furlong,
Lockeridge,
Nr Marlborough, Wiltshire.
May 30.

Abolition of worship in schools

From Mr L. L. Blake

Sir, You report (May 30) that "Head teachers promised yesterday to press for the abolition of daily prayers because schools feel it is hypocritical and impractical to enforce worship." On your Education page on the same day Martin Stephen writes an article under the headline, "Who respects teachers?"

Do not teachers see the connection? Unless children are encouraged to engage in a collective act of worship that embraces the civilised, fundamentally Christian principles of their society, it is certain that children will show little respect for anything else, including their teachers.

Yours truly,
L. L. BLAKE,
271 Lonsdale Road, SW13.
May 30.

From Mr Nicolas Walter

Sir, The overwhelming vote by the Association of Head Teachers against the legal imposition of collective wor*ship on schools is a significant step in* the long struggle against this profoundly anti-educational practice.

Freethinkers have opposed it from the earliest days of state education — indeed the Secularist movement arose from the original campaign for secular education a century and a half ago. It also used to be opposed by political organisations, including the Labour *Party, but Labour governments have* hesitated to do anything about it.

However, now that so many teachers, inspectors, governors, administrators, educationists and politicians agree that virtually compulsory religious worship, of whatever denomination, has no place in publicly-funded schools used by children from various religious and non-religious *backgrounds, may we hope that the* new Labour Government, with its overwhelming parliamentary majority, including a large intake of new and young Members, will at last repeal this law and enable our schools to develop genuinely educational forms of secular assembly to express their collective identity?

Yours etc,
NICOLAS WALTER,
Rationalist Press Association,
88 Islington High Street, N1.
May 30.

From the Reverend Prebendary N. Jackson-Stevens

Sir, Chris Nye, head of Park Primary School in Gloucester, while citing the fact that none of his clerical relatives goes to an organised act of worship every day as a reason to abolish daily prayers in schools, ought to be aware that Canon C26 of the Church of England states that "every bishop, priest and deacon is under obligation to say daily the Morning and Evening Prayer either privately or openly". Despite the liberal tendency of some of the clergy today many still do.

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL JACKSON-STEVENS,
The Vicarage, St Brannock's Road,
Ilfracombe, Devon.

From Mr P. B. Waterfield

Sir, Chris Nye's argument really *won't do. His clerical relatives may* not attend an organised act of worship every day, but I'm sure they say their prayers and read their Bibles. It will be a cultural as well as a religious tragedy if the great majority of children grow up without hearing the Bible stories, singing the best hymns, and learning to pray for compassion, respect for others and honesty.

The head of Cardrew Junior School's "unease over 'indoctrinating' children" is equally absurd. What else is teaching at its best but indoctrinating children in our culture? Even the most fervent religious teaching has never prevented children from making their own decisions.

Yours sincerely,
P. B. WATERFIELD,
Tredower, St Martin-in-Meneage,
Helston, Cornwall.
May 31.

Oxford's Bacon

From the Master of Pembroke College, Oxford

Sir, No doubt there are two views of the Pembroke Junior Common Room's decision to sell its Bacon. Mr P. R. Millest's letter (May 24), however, contains inaccuracies and I feel obliged to respond.

In addition to the Bacon, which was *on loan to the Ashmolean, the JCR col*lection also included a number of excellent examples of paintings by a re*markable generation of post-1945* English artists. These were displayed in a modest room reserved for that purpose in the college itself. Those not being exhibited were kept in a specially designed area which, while far from perfect, was certainly neither neglected nor forgotten.

Some of the paintings from both groups were exhibited, together with paintings that belong to the college, at Eights' Week last year. That was a joint effort between the Senior and the Junior Common Rooms.

At no time has the SCR suggested the collection belonged to the college or should be sold for the benefit of the college's endowment. Certainly in the four years since I have been Master no one has queried the ownership being in the JCR, and indeed the fellow responsible for the college's art collection, *together with the law* fellows, has worked closely with the JCR as they have thought through the *future of their collection.*

Faithfully yours,
ROBERT STEVENS, Master,
Pembroke College, Oxford.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

World Cup embargo

From Mrs Glenys Kinnock, MEP for South Wales East (Socialist Group (Labour))

Sir, An EU sports embargo was placed upon Nigeria after the execution of Ken Saro Wiwa and the eight Ongoni activists in November 1995 — one of a number of measures which European member states imposed upon the Lagos regime.

European development ministers have already broken the common position on visa restrictions by inviting a Nigerian minister to a joint Africa, Caribbean and Pacific/EU meeting held in Luxembourg last month.

Now it is likely that foreign ministers, as a result of great pressure from France, will claim that since the sports embargo was agreed after the date and venue for the World Cup was decided, they need not impose a ban on the participation of the Nigerian football team in the World Cup in *1998. It is my understanding that* foreign ministers will today simply allow this decision through "on the nod".

European commitment to democratic reform in Nigeria is already, justi*fiably, seen as weak and ineffectual.* How can it, therefore, be acceptable to give such a signal to those in Nigeria *who will use it as proof of our* willingness to "deal" with the regime?

General Abacha will welcome the fact that Europe has ensured that he can, at least, keep his football fans happy.

Yours sincerely,
GLENYS KINNOCK,
European Parliament,
97 rue Belliard, Brussels B-1047.
June 2.

Long and short of a Latin epigram

From Mr Hubert Picarda, QC

Sir, Philip Howard should not fret over his Latin howler ("Sorry I played you false . . .", May 31).

The great Charterhouse classics master and Loeb editor, Thomas Ethelbert Page, CH, DLitt, blundered almost as badly. In his Latin elegiacs celebrating the 150th anniversary of *The Times* on January 1, 1935, he heinously *treated the final syllable of quin*quaginta as short (though I believe *sexaginta* occurs thus, once, in Martial).

Hubert Watson, a Balliol man, wrote to the Editor:

"Indignor quandoque bonus dormitat Homerus":
Inclytus offendit Pagina, tunc stupeo
Quinquaginta metri causa si scribere fas est,
Omnia dediscant quae docuit pueri.

"It grieves me sore when Homer nods":
But when Page blunders, O ye gods!
If quinquaginta's really short,
Let boys unlearn the rules he taught.

The Editor's neat reply, declining publication "with compliments and regrets", at least avoided a trisyllabic ending to the pentameter:

Ne contra populo mendosum corrige, lector,
Offendat quamvis Pagina, parce seni.

Of school u's faults let not the world be told,
If Page has blundered, reader, spare the old

According to Watson, in *Jabberwocky etc (More English Rhymes with Latin Renderings)* (1937), Page, then well into his eighties, "was not a little upset when he realised the mistake he had made".

Page, incidentally, learnt to versify at Shrewsbury, at the feet of the great *Benjamin Hall Kennedy of Latin Primer* (and *Gender Rhymes*) fame.

Yours faithfully,
HUBERT PICARDA,
3 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, WC2.
May 31.

From Mr John Wilson

Sir, It is as handsome of Philip Howard to admit to a false quantity as it is unsurprising that the Cambridge judges made no award this year for *the composition of a Latin epigram* (report, May 23).

Cum brevia ipse Howard nescit distinguere longis,
Scribere non miror recte non posse minores.

When Howard himself cannot
Distinguish short from long,
I'm not surprised a lot
Of lesser men go wrong.

I am, etc,
JOHN WILSON,
University of Oxford,
Department of Educational Studies,
15 Norham Gardens, Oxford.

From Mr Nicholas Lane

Sir, As a past winner of the Sir William Browne Medal, might I suggest there is a simpler reason why no entries of the required standard were submitted to the Cambridge judges this year.

Browne Medals, unlike other prizes for verse composition, have no cash incentive. Betty Boothroyd, this year's chosen theme, would, I am sure, be relieved to know that at Cambridge, at least, there is no "cash for epigrams".

Yours etc,
NICHOLAS LANE,
37 Burlington Road, W4.
May 23.

Ban on 'Crash'

From Mr Francis Bennion

Sir, Another example of the overruling of the film censor by a local authority (letter from Judge McHale, May 26) was the 1975 decision of the Greater London Council to allow exhibition to London adults of *More about the language of love*, a sex-education film of general interest.

What happened next was that the Director of Public Prosecutions, disregarding the council's certificate, brought a prosecution for obscenity at common law.

As I remember, it was emphatically *not a film* where the actors adopted the expedient mentioned by Judge McHale of keeping their backs to the camera.

Yours faithfully,
FRANCIS BENNION,
5 Old Nursery View,
Kennington, Oxford.
May 27.

From Mr A. E. Brewer

Sir, I must be older than Judge McHale because I recall that, in the 1930s, the Americans sent over a film called *Damaged Lives*.

The British Board of Film Censors refused it an exhibition licence, but Essex County Council licensed the *film and I saw it at the Hippodrome*, Ilford.

It was a fairly ordinary tale of a *family disrupted when the husband* caught syphilis; but local doctors (I think from King George's Hospital) *seized the moment and, after the film,* gave a lecture on venereal disease, illustrated with horribly explicit coloured slides. There were nurses on duty to deal with those overcome by the gory details.

Altogether a fun evening — but I imagine that no member of that audience ever forgot it.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN BREWER,
154 Evelyn Avenue,
Ruislip, Middlesex.
May 26.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 3: His Excellency Mr Tsedenjavyn Suhbaatar was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador from Mongolia to the Court of St James's.

Mrs Dashun Oyunchimeg was also received by Her Majesty.

Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present.

General Sir Alexander Harley was received by The Queen upon his *appointment as Adjutant General*.

Mr Justice Eady was received by The Queen upon his appointment as a Justice of the High Court when Her Majesty conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood and invested him with the Insignia of a Knight Bachelor.

Mrs Janet Anderson MP (Vice Chamberlain of the Household) was received in audience by The Queen and presented an Address from the House of Commons to which Her Majesty was graciously pleased to make reply.

The Rt Hon Anthony Blair MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of The Queen this evening.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Master, this morning attended the Annual Court Meeting, Church Service and Luncheon at Trinity House, Tower Hill, London EC3.

His Royal Highness, Founder and Chairman of the International Trustees of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, this evening gave a Reception at Buckingham Palace and later attended a Dinner at St James's Palace.

The Lady Elton has succeeded the Hon Mary Morrison as Lady in Waiting to Her Majesty.

June 3: The Duke of York, Elder Brother, this morning attended the Annual Court Meeting, Church Service and Luncheon at Trinity House, Tower Hill, London EC3.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 3: The Prince Edward, Trustee of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Foundation, this evening attended a Reception at Buckingham Palace followed by a World Fellowship Dinner at St James's Palace.

June 3: The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Corps of Signals, this morning visited the 14th Signal Regiment (Electronic Warfare) at Cawdor Barracks, *near Haverfordwest*, Dyfed.

CLARENCE HOUSE
June 3: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present this evening at a Reception at the Royal Air Force Club given to mark the Club's Seventy Fifth Anniversary.

Mrs Michael Gordon-Lennox and Sir Alastair Aird were in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
June 3: The Prince of Wales, President, this evening attended a Dinner to celebrate The Prince's Trust's Twenty First Anniversary.

KENSINGTON PALACE
June 3: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon this evening opened the British Interior Design Exhibition at a Gala Preview in aid of Queen Elizabeth's Foundation for Disabled People at 1 Cambridge Gate, Regent's Park, London NW1.

YORK HOUSE
June 3: The Duke of Kent, President, the Engineering Council, this morning opened the new regional headquarters of Halliburton Brown and Root, Hill Park, Springfield Drive, Leatherhead, and was received by Mr Gordon Lee-Steere (Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey).

His Royal Highness this afternoon opened Meadows Mental Health Unit, West Park Hospital, Horton Lane, Epsom, Surrey.

Premium Bonds

The £1 million prize in the Premium Bond draw for June was won with bond number 52NW 658190. The winner lives in Surrey, and has a bond holding of £20,000.

The following Premium Bond prizewinners were announced yesterday:

£100,000: 64ET 265694, winner has a holding of £12,500 and comes from Hereford and Worcester; 19WZ 095076, £234, Perthshire and Kinross; 40TL 029763, £20,000, Ealing, west London; 31GW 292231, £5525, Hampshire; 42NW 045764, £19,755, Gloucestershire.

£50,000: 59ZW 173646, £12,004, Staffordshire; 40NW 958839, £20,000, Nottinghamshire; 36QF 989276, £20,000, East Sussex; 81BL 048077, £11,270, Northamptonshire; 55HB 397335, £8,125, Wiltshire; 17PW 327489, £3,850, Camden, north London; 66AN 831007 £1,600, Suffolk; 62BS 079763, £20,000, Islington, north London.

£25,000: 05LK 348924, £20,000, Lewisham, south London; 67BB 292925, £17,000, City of Westminster; 43KP 579546, £20,000, Overseas; 18NP 749713, £20,000, West Glamorgan; 44HP 842071, £6,310; Norfolk; 55HW 022444, £13,600, Surrey; 43VN 204203, £100, Devon; 30JP 125011, £20,000, Cheshire; 18VW 853196, £1,050, Overseas; 28VW 226869, £100, Middlesex; 76BN 399840, £10,000, Berkshire; 30MS 591228, £8,000, Tyne & Wear; 48NZ 674688, £19,988, Gloucestershire; 50TK 897603, £11,450, Kent; 48LP 359226, £20,000, Berkshire; 48RF 492540, £7,605, Hertfordshire; 23KP 519009, £20, Northamptonshire; 44CZ 667382, £20,000, Merseyside.

Westminster School

The Challenge: the following have been elected to **Queen's Scholarships:**
M Kerimol (Westminster Under School); J W Bakes (Westminster Under School); M X Malinowski (Westminster Under School); E E Newton (Westminster Under School); A H D Brenchley (The Mall School); N T S Pimlott (Westminster Under School); A J Fry (Dulwich College Preparatory School); E A J Waddingham (Gayhurst School).
The following have been awarded **Honorary Scholarships:**
P L H C Cleorget (North Bridge House School); G H Renwick (North Bridge House School).
The Richard Edlin Mathematics Bursary has been awarded to: N D Krempel (Westminster Under School).
Sixth Form awards:
Anne-Marie Cunnold (North London Collegiate School) funded by the Bernard Sunley Foundation; Daphne Harvey (Bromley High School) funded by the Rayne Foundation; Zhiqing Hu (Southend High School for Girls) funded by the Emmott Foundation; Nisha Makan (St Helen's School for Girls); Robert Marsh (Dulwich College) funded by the Emmott Foundation and the Cuthbert Heath Memorial Foundation; Emily Mears (City of London School for Girls) funded by the Bernard Sunley Foundation; Raghu Nandakumara (St James Independent School) funded partly by the Emmott Foundation; Leila Peacock (Laurel Bank School).
Music awards are as follows:
Scholarship - M D O Brown (Westminster Under School); A R J Campkin (North Bridge House School).
Exhibitions - J A Church (Westminster Cathedral Choir School); C J Knaggs (Trevor-Roberts' Preparatory School); A S Millar (Westminster Under School); J A Sakal (Holmwood House School); T D P Wroe (Westminster Under School).

The Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School

Solemn Sung Mass, to mark the retirement of Mr Anthony Pellegrini, Headmaster of The Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School since 1976, will be held in Westminster Cathedral on Wednesday, June 18, at 7.00pm. All former pupils, parents and friends of the School are invited to attend.

Horris Hill v Arabs

On Sunday June 29, at Horris Hill School, Newbury, E.W. Swanton's Arabs XI will play M.J.L. Stow's XI, to mark the 50th Anniversary of this fixture. All old boys, Arabs, members and friends of the school are welcome to attend. Play starts at 11.30am.

Field Marshal Sir James Cassels

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Field Marshal Sir James Cassels, GCB, KBE, DSO, will be held in the Garrison Chapel, Fort George, Inverness-shire at 3pm on Sunday, July 13, 1997. Members of the Regiment and friends wishing to attend the service are asked to inform the Secretary, Seaforth Highlanders Regimental Association, Cameron Barracks, Inverness, IV2 3XD by not later than June 16.

WAYNE ALLEN

The Duke of Edinburgh, Master of Trinity House, and the Duke of York, an Elder Brother, on their way to the lighthouse authority's annual church service at Tower Hill, London, yesterday

Today's royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will dine with the Garter Knights at Spencer House at 7.50. The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester and the Duke of Kent will also attend.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Field Marshal, will inspect the In-Pensioners at the Founder's Day Parade, at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, at 10.15.

The Princess Royal, as Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Signals, will visit 21 Signal Regiment (Air Support) at Azminghur Barracks, Colerne, near Chippenham, Wiltshire, at 10.00; and will visit Churchward Retail Park, Swindon at 2.40.

Princess Margaret will open the refurbished Foyer Building in Alexander Road, Swansea, at 12.00; will visit the Grand Theatre and launch a programme of events to mark its centenary at 12.50; will visit the Llewellyn Alms Houses, Leonard Road, Neath, West Glamorgan, at 2.40.

The Duke of Kent will unveil statues of Field Marshal Montgomery and a Second World War soldier, at the D-Day Museum, Southsea, Portsmouth at 11.45.

Birthdays today

General Sir Cecil Blacker, 81; Mr Bob Champion, jockey and trainer, 49; Air Vice-Marshal G.A Chesworth, Lord-Lieutenant of Morayshire, 67; Sir Christopher Cockerell, FRS, hovercraft inventor, 87; Vice-Admiral Sir Toby Frere, 59; Rear-Admiral Sir Paul Greening, former Master of HM's Household, 69; Mr A.H.C. Greenwood, former deputy chairman, British Aerospace, 80; the Earl of Halsbury, FRS, 89.

Miss Andrea Jaeger, tennis player, 32; Vice-Admiral Sir John Lea, 74; Mr J.D.R. Lyon, former chief executive, Rexam, 61; Mr Geoffrey Palmer, actor, 70; Sir John Sparrow, company director, 64; Professor J.C. West, former Vice-Chancellor, Bradford University, 75; Sir David Yardley, former chairman, Commission for Local Administration in England, 68.

Legal appointment

Mr Peter Milwyn Evans to be a District Judge on the Wales & Chester Circuit.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: William Gilpin, writer, Scaleby Castle, near Carlisle, 1724; King George III, reigned 1760-1820, London, 1738; Stephen Foster, songwriter, Pittsburgh, 1826; Baron Carl Mannerheim, general, President of Finland 1944-46, Askainen, 1867; Rosalind Russell, actress, Connecticut, 1911.

DEATHS: William Juxon, Archbishop of Canterbury 1660-63, London, 1663; Giovanni Casanova, ecclesiastic, soldier and diplomat, Duchov, Czechoslovakia, 1798; Marguerite Gardiner, Countess of Blessington, novelist, Paris, 1849; F.R. Spofforth, cricketer, "the demon bowler", Ditton Hill Lodge, Surrey, 1926; William II, German Emperor 1888-1918, Doorn, The Netherlands, 1941; Serge Koussevitsky, conductor, Boston, Massachusetts, 1951; Dorothy Gish, stage and film actress, Rapallo, Italy, 1968; György Lukács, philosopher, 1971.

The first Trooping the Colour ceremony took place on Horse Guards Parade, London, 1805.

The Reform Bill was passed, 1832.

Rome was liberated by the Allies, 1944.

Tonga, or the Friendly Islands, became independent, 1970.

Forthcoming marriages

Dr C.J. Atkin and Miss S.L. Dowling
The engagement is announced between Chris, youngest son of the late Mr William Atkin and of Mrs Atkin, of Chadlington, Oxfordshire, and Siobhan, younger daughter of the late Dr St John Dowling and of Mrs Dowling, of *Perry Green, Hertfordshire*.

Mr J.A. Bracey-Gibbon and Miss A. Contomichalos
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr and Mrs John Bracey-Gibbon, of Great Bedwyn, Wiltshire, and Alexandra, daughter of Mr Gerassimos Contomichalos and the late Mrs Sophia Contomichalos, of Cape Town, South Africa.

Mr R.M. Browning and Miss S.E. Chadwick
The engagement is announced between Mark, younger son of Mr and Mrs Robert Browning, of Hydra, Greece, and Sophia, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Patrick Chadwick, of Clifton, York.

Mr T.N. Chapman and Miss K. Partridge
The engagement is announced between Timothy, younger son of Mr and Mrs Brian Chapman, of Ribchester, Lancashire, and Kim, elder daughter of Mr John Partridge and the late Mrs John Partridge, of Thornton Heath, Surrey.

Mr J.S.S. Hobbs and Miss A.A. Harden
The engagement is announced between Julian Hobbs, of London, and Alyson Harden, of Glasgow and London.

Mr S.H. Craven and Miss D.W. Gonella
The engagement is announced between Seton, elder son of Mr and Mrs Dominic Craven, of Hartley Wintney, Hampshire, and Diane, younger daughter of the late Mr Charles Gonella and of Mrs Gwendoline Gonella, of Peckham, London.

Mr S.A. Lovell and Miss A.V. Routledge
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs Robin Lovell, of St Lucia, West Indies, and Cranleigh, Surrey, and Ann, daughter of Mr and Mrs Bryan Routledge, of Oxted, Surrey.

Marriage

Dr J.H. Harris and Miss S.A. Tyler
The marriage took place on Saturday, May 24, at the Church of St John the Divine, Cwmbach Llechrhyd, of Dr Jonathan Harry Harris, only son of Mr and Mrs Harry Harris, of East Preston, West Sussex, and Miss Sarah Ann Tyler, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Norman Tyler, of Llanfaredd, Powys. Canon Alan Pearcey and *the Rev John Tyler officiated*.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by her sister, Miss Mary Tyler, Isabel Hollom and Virginia Cordy-Redden. Dr John Paddy was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent in the Caribbean.

Sir David Hildyard

A memorial service for Sir David Hildyard, KCMG, DFC, will take place in St Luke's Church, Sydney Street, SW3, at noon on Tuesday, June 24, 1997.

Hugh Faulkner

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Hugh Faulkner, OBE, first director of Help the Aged, later director of the Asthma Research Council (now the National Asthma Campaign) and then hon director of the Persistent Virus Disease Research Foundation will be held at St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London, on Monday, June 23, at 3.00pm. All are welcome.

Alfred Aubone Baden Fuller

A Memorial Service for Alfred Aubone Baden Fuller will be held in Lincoln's Inn Chapel on Tuesday, July 8, 1997, at 5.00pm.

Dinners

Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain
Mr Ian Caldwell, President of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, presided at a dinner held last night at 1 Lambeth High Street. Baroness Gardner of Parkes also spoke. Among others present were:
Sir Graham Hart, Sir John and Lady Chalstrey, Sir Neville Purvis, the President of the Royal College of General Practitioners, the President of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, the Chief Executive of the Carers National Association, the Chief Scientific Officer, Department of Health, the Head of Inspection and Enforcement, Medicines Control Agency, the Director General of the Association of British Pharmaceutical Industry, Mr Keith Krzywicki, Mr Norman Usher, Mr Gavin K Bell, Ms Imelda McLoughlin and Mr Ian Murray.

European-Atlantic Group
Mr Julius Nyerere was the speaker at a dinner discussion of the European-Atlantic Group held last night at the St Ermin's Hotel. Lord *Judd presided*. Mr Nick Hare and Sir Peter Marshall also spoke.

Service dinner

The Rifle Brigade
Brigadier C.J.Mc. Harrisson presided at the annual dinner of the Rifle Brigade Club held last night at the Cavalry and Guards Club.

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BIRTHS

BAILEY - On May 28th 1997, to Lara (née Kirkaldy) and Richard, a son, Oliver Angus Eastman.

BARHAM - On 31st May, to Clare (née Turnbull) and Edward, a daughter, Helena Jane, a sister for Emily and George.

DULIEU - Katie Scarlet, beautiful daughter of Gary and Debbie, born Saturday 17th May 1997 at 1.38pm.

GAMBLES - On May 22nd at The Portland Hospital, to Christine (née Hastings) and John, a son, Henry Samuel Fauvel.

GODFREY - On 2nd June 1997, to Fiona (née Lorimer) and Peter, a son, Harry George Rupert, a brother for Chris, Thomas, Sarah and Katie.

HOBBS - On June 2nd 1997, to *Heather (née McCann)* and Jamie, a daughter, Leonora Olivia Mary.

MILLER - On May 23rd at The Portland Hospital, to Elizabeth (née Morgan) and David, a daughter, Isabelle.

NISHIMURA - On May 31st at the Hospital of St John & St Elizabeth, to Al and Ken, a lovely son, Yo, 3.4 kg at 4.14am.

ROBERTS - On 2nd June 1997 at St Thomas' Hospital, to Camilla (née Henderson) and Andrew, a son, Henry Dacre Hazard.

RUSHFORD - On May 8th, to Sharon (née Phillips) and Kevin, a son, Calum.

SARANTINOS - On May 31st at the Hospital of St John & St Elizabeth, to Stratis and Violetta, a beautiful son, Constantine, a brother for Nicholas and Gregory.

SHAW - On May 28th at The Portland Hospital, to Sally (née Abraham) and Warren, a daughter, Michelle Millie.

STRONG - On May 31st 1997, to Sara (born Willcox) and Tony, a son, brother for Tom and Harry.

SYMINGTON - On May 30th, to Sally (née Green) and Tim, a daughter, Lucy Rose, a sister for Anna and Matthew.

TRANT - On 2nd June 1997, to Rebecca (née Mangles) and Richard, a daughter, Matilda Amelia Beatrice, a sister for Brookie.

WILLIAMS-ELLIS - On 1st June, to Serena and David, a son.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

HAIG - John Haig very much regrets he is unable to write individually to thank all those who so kindly wrote sending their love and sympathy on Rosemary's death. Their letters have given him great comfort and support.

DEATHS

AITCHISON - On June 1st, *1997, after a short illness in* her 94th year, Margaret, née Ritchie, of Lochton, Coldstream, beloved wife of Henry, loving mother of John, mother-in-law to Rosalind and granny to Ian, Graeme and Jane and Judy. Funeral Service in Kelso North Church on Thursday, June 5th, at 2 pm, and Mortonhall Crematorium at 4 pm. Family flowers only, please.

ALEXANDER-BOWEN - Julia. Peacefully at St Columbas Hospice on June 2nd 1997. Cremation private at her own request.

BAILEY - Dr. Ian Severn died after a short illness in Southmead Hospital, Bristol, on May 31st 1997. He was deeply loved and will be greatly missed by his family and friends. Enquiries (0117) 9624505.

BARNES - Irene (née Baudains) on Saturday 31st May, 1997, in Jersey, beloved wife of the late Eric, dearly loved mother of Rosemary, Eric, John and Anthony and nana of Jonathon, Jane, Sarah, Robin and Timothy. Enquiries to Pitcher and La Quesne Ltd., Funeral Directors. Tel 01534 33330.

BATHURST - Sophie-Mary Elizabeth on 2nd June 1997, peacefully after a courageous fight against cancer. Beloved mother of *Charles and Jane* and grandmother of Harriet, Theo, Eleanor and Ianthe. Funeral Service will take place at St. Georges Church, Beneden on Monday 9th June at 3.00pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired to the Hawkhurst Cottage Hospital League of Friends, c/o R.B. Sills, Kenwood, High Street, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 3DT.

BECHER - Maryon, widow of Tristram Eeles, wife of Michael Becher, mother of Adrian and Robert Eeles, stepmother of Caroline, Andrew and Jonathan Becher, and a devoted grandmother to both families, on May 30th, in France. Funeral at Arkesden Parish Church, near Saffron Walden, Essex, on Thursday, June 12th at 1 pm. A train from Liverpool Street Station departs 11.38, arrives Audley End 12.34. Flowers through Evergreen (Family Florist), Saffron Walden, tel: 01799-522277.

BLAKER - On 30th May 1997, aged 85, Dawn Laetitia Prudence, née Watson, of Rotherfield Greys, Henley-on-Thames. Loved widow of Guy, mother of Peter, mother-in-law of Hildegund and grandmother of Alexandra, Dominic and Nicholas. Funeral Service on Tuesday 10th June 1997 at 3pm at the Church of St Nicholas, Rotherfield Greys. Donations, if desired, to be shared between the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and Rotherfield Greys Church, to Messrs Tomalin & Son, 38 Reading Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire RG9 1AG.

BOLD - Dr. Leslie of Kemberton, Shropshire, died peacefully on 1st June aged 92. Much loved father of Alan and Janet, grandfather of seven and great-grandfather of four, he was the perfect kindly gentleman to the end and will be greatly missed by his family and many friends. Funeral at Kemberton Parish Church on 11th June at 2.30pm. Donations if desired to St Andrew's Church Kemberton PCC or SENSE, 311 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8PT.

CADELL - On Tuesday 3rd June, 1997, peacefully after a long illness, at the Morningside Nursing Home, Edinburgh, in her 94th year Christina Rose (Kirstine) wife of the late Colonel H.M. Cadell of Grange - much loved mother and grandmother. Thanksgiving Service at St Michael's Church, Linlithgow at 2.30 pm Saturday 7th June. Family flowers only.

CARTER - Peacefully in her sleep on June 2nd aged 84, Phyllis, beloved wife of Eric, mother of Julie and Adrian and grandmother of Oliver, Louise, Rachel and Simon. Cremation at Beckenham Crematorium on Friday 13th June at 2 pm. Family flowers only but donations to Age Concern c/o Francis Chappell & Sons, Boundary Place, Sevenoaks Road, Orpington, tel: (01689) 875116.

COOPER - On May 31st 1997 Lorna Cooper, Dame of the Order of St John, peacefully at Woodpeckers Nursing Home, Brockenhurst, in her 96th year, last surviving child of Canon and Mrs A.N. Cooper of Filey, Yorkshire. Private cremation. Service at Bournemouth Crematorium on Monday June 9th. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to Wings Fellowship Trust (holidays for the disabled). Service of Thanksgiving to be held at St Thomas' Church, Lymington at 3 pm on Tuesday July 8th. All enquiries to Diamond & Son, Lymington, Hants. (01590) 672060.

COX - Alan John, husband of Christine, father of Anthony and Geraldine and son of Mary and Reg, died peacefully at home on June 1st. Sadly missed by all. *Funeral Service at* Easthampstead Park Crematorium, Bracknell, Berks on Friday 6th June at 1.30 pm. All welcome. Family flowers only. Donations to Wokingham and District Cancer Care Trust (Macmillan Nurses), c/o Cyril H. Lovegrove, 58 Briants Avenue, Caversham, Reading RG4 5BA, tel: (01734) 461393.

CRAWFORD - Derick Alexander on June 2nd peacefully in King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst. Private cremation. Memorial Service at Ebenezer Church 2pm on Monday June 9th. Family flowers only, donations to Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund.

DUTT - On 24th May 1997, in London, Pauline Deirdre Dutt, beloved wife of Trevor and mother of Damien and Alexander. Funeral Service at Putney Vale Cemetery on 11th June at 11.15 am. Flowers to A. France & Son, 45 Lamb's Conduit Street, London WC1N 3NH (0171-405 4901).

EELES - Maryon, see Becher above.

GILFORD - Harry passed peacefully away on June 2nd 1997, most dearly loved brother of Dota and much loved uncle to all his family. President of the West Essex Golf Club for 14 years. Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Bakers. Funeral Service on Tuesday June 10th at 10 am at Our Lady of Grace and St Teresa Catholic Church, Station Road, Chingford, E4, followed by a reception at the West Essex Golf Club, Bury Road, Chingford. The Family only will attend a private cremation. No flowers. Donations in his memory to St Joseph's Hospice, Mare Street, Hackney, London E8.

GRAHAM-BRYCE - Dame Isabel Graham Bryce D.B.E. There will be a memorial service for Dame Isabel, at St. Columba's Church, Alfred Street, Oxford, on Saturday June 21st 1997, at 2.30pm. Enquiries to 01865 791856. No flowers please but donations to the League of Friends, Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, to 23 Elms Road, Oxford, OX2 9JZ.

HUGH-JONES - Edward Maurice, Fellow of Keble College, Professor of Economics University of Keele, peacefully on May 31st aged 94. Funeral at St Mary the Virgin, Wootton, Woodstock, on Friday 6th June at 2.30 pm.

JENKINS - Gwen (Gwendolen Margaret - née Morris), peacefully in her 81st year. Very dear widow of Gordon, much loved mother of Charlotte and devoted grandma of Katherine and Henry. Funeral Service at St John the Baptist Church, Windlesham on Wednesday 11th June at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if you wish, to The Children's Ward Appeal, Frimley Park Hospital, Surrey GU16 5UJ or to Peter Wilson, Secretary, The Royal Ballet Benevolent Fund, Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2E 9DD.

LAMBERT - Elizabeth Christine peacefully at home on 30th May aged 91. Widow of Jeffrey M. Lambert. Much loved mother of John and Jenny, grandmother of Rachel and Alastair and great-grandmother of William. Funeral at St Anne's Church, Kew Green, on *Tuesday 10th June* at 1.45pm and at 2.30pm at Mortlake Crematorium. Refreshments afterwards. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, may be sent to- Volunteer Reading Help London, Ebury Bridge Centre, Sutherland Street, London SW1V 4LH.

LEWIS - On June 2nd at home with his family after a short illness bravely borne, Dr. Evan Glyn Lewis M.A. D. Litt. (late Staff H.M.I. Wales) of 18 Curlew Road, Porthcawl. Beloved husband of Valmai, and dearly loved father of Lois and the late Gareth, Nesta and Dave, and loving grandfather of Bethan and Michael, Branwen, Dwain and Hywel and Taid of Jamie Gareth. Funeral service on Saturday June 7th at Trinity Church, Porthcawl at 10.15am. Followed by cremation at Margam Crematorium 11 am. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu may be sent to: Marie Curie Cancer Care, Cartref Court, Abergavenny, Gwent.

LLOYD - On Thursday, 29th May, Winifred (Pin) Lloyd O.B.E. lately of Hampton Bishop, Hereford. The funeral service will be held at Hereford Crematorium on Saturday 7th June, at 10.30am, followed by a Service of Thanksgiving at St Andrew's Church, Hampton Bishop, Hereford at 12 noon to which all friends are welcome. Family flowers only. If desired donations for The Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Society may be sent to Dawe Bros., 115 Westbury Street, Hereford.

LUKER - Jean in Bristol on June 2nd aged 79 years. Dearly loved by her daughters, family and friends. Cremation at Canford Crematorium, Bristol, on Monday June 9th at 2.30 pm. No flowers but donations if desired for Imperial Cancer Research Fund c/o R. Davies & Son, 381 Gloucester Road, Horfield, Bristol, BS7 8TN, tel: (0117) 9424039.

McCANN - Denis George died peacefully at home on Friday 30th May. He was greatly loved by Florence and all his family. The funeral will be held at St Mary's Church, West Chiltington, on 11th June at 3.30 pm. Family flowers only please. *Donations can be sent to the* Mary Howe Trust c/o W. Bryder & Sons, The Gables, Tillington, nr. Petworth, West Sussex.

McFARLANE - Mac, peacefully on June 1st, beloved husband of the late Pat and adored father of Fiona and Tricia, son-in-law Brian and grandsons Clive and Mark. Family funeral Friday June 6th. Friends invited to our home 11.30 am. Enquiries to Lines Bannister Funeral Director, tel: (01344) 20266.

MORLEY - On June 3rd 1997 Primrose Elizabeth (Gordon) aged 84. Beloved mother of David, Jonathan, Susan and Miranda, and grandmother. Service of Thanksgiving at Chieveley Church, Chieveley, Newbury, Monday June 9th at 12 noon. Family flowers only.

MORTIMER - On June 1st 1997 peacefully, Gerald James Mortimer, DL, CBE, F ENG, ARSM, dearly beloved husband of Ella and father of Geoffrey, Jennifer, Kathleen and John. Funeral Service at Caterham United Reformed Church on Tuesday June 10th at 11 am. Family flowers only please, but if you wish, donations to either The Parkinson's Disease Society or the Caterham School Bursary Fund in his memory. Donations may be sent to R.C. Baker & Son, 15/17 High Street, Caterham, Surrey. A Memorial Service will be held at Caterham URC on Friday July 4th at 3 pm.

ORR EWING - Marion Hester (née Cameron) aged 82, on 31st May 1997 peacefully at home. Adored wife of Ronald, much loved mother of Archie, Janet, Fiona and Jamie, and beloved grandmother. Funeral Service at 2 pm on Thursday, 5th June at St Mary's Church, Aberfoyle. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund.

REES - Reverend James Arthur died 1st June aged 92 in Worthing Hospital.

RUDDOCK - On May 31st 1997 at St Helier Hospital, Carshalton, Margaret May (Peggy) aged 78 years, widow of Richard and beloved mother of Hazel and Pam. Funeral at Putney Vale Crematorium on Wednesday 11th June at 2 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, 15/19 Britten Street, London SW3 3TZ.

STEPHENS - Patsy Clare *Granville on May 24th. Much* loved mother of Clare, Jane, Prue and Glenn and special grandmother to Helen, Carl, Toby, Jessica, Tania and Luke. Donations to Marie Curie Cancer Care.

TEE - John Samuel on 31st May. Much loved partner of Teri and father of Matthew, Frances, Millie and David. Funeral at 11 am Monday 9th June at Golders Green Crematorium, 62 Hoop Lane, NW11. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to *Cancer Research, 10* Cambridge Terrace, London, NW1 4JL.

TURNER - Roy on June 1st suddenly in Poole Hospital aged 69 years. Dearly loved husband of the late Kitty and father of Paul and Nigel. Funeral Service to be held at Poole Crematorium on Monday June 9th at 12.30pm. No flowers. *Donations for the Stroke* Association or the British Diabetic Association may be sent to Tapper Funeral Service, 32-34 Parkstone Road, Poole, Dorset.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BADEN FULLER - Alfred Aubone. A Memorial Service for Alfred Aubone Baden Fuller will be held in Lincoln's Inn Chapel on Tuesday 8th July 1997 at 5.00pm.

MARRIAGES

WYNN-BRAITHWAITE - The marriage took place on Saturday 31st May at St Justus Church, Rochester, between Adrian Bede Wynn and Lucy Anne Braithwaite.

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OBITUARIES

EDDIE THOMAS

Eddie Thomas, MBE, former boxer, trainer and manager, died on June 2 aged 71. He was born in Merthyr Tydfil on July 27, 1925.

Although Eddie Thomas held British, European and Commonwealth titles at welterweight between 1949 and 1951, it is for his handling of other fighters that he has his permanent niche in the history of boxing. In the late 1960s and early 1970s he guided to world titles two of the best British boxers to have graced the ring since the war: Howard Winstone, like himself, a Merthyr man, and the Scot Ken Buchanan.

Under his tutelage Winstone held the world featherweight crown in 1968 though, had it not been for the presence on the world stage of the exceptional Mexican Vicente Saldivar, it would undoubtedly have been longer). Ken Buchanan reigned as world lightweight champion from 1970 to 1972.

Thomas also trained the talented and brave Gorseinon welterweight Colin Jones, who won British, European and Commonwealth titles and came close to winning the world crown on two occasions against Milton McCrory in 1983, boxing a draw in the first of these two contests, after a fight in which he had done all the attacking.

As a trainer, Thomas was a traditionalist, believing that the jab was the foundation of all ring strategy. But it was as a corner and cuts man that he was best known in the trade. Henry Cooper, always a man prone to bleed profusely if his face was subjected to stern fistic attack, insisted on having Thomas in his corner after his own cuts man, Danny Holland, left him in 1970.

Thomas had a knack of finding simple solutions for awkward situations during a fight. In the first bout between Buchanan and Ismael Laguna for the world lightweight title in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in 1970, realising that the sun would be in Buchanan's eyes during the intervals in the fight, Thomas quickly persuaded a woman spectator in ringside to part with her parasol for the sum of $10.

In the second meeting with Laguna, in Madison Square Garden in 1971, Thomas earned the admiration of American cornermen when they saw how he dealt with a huge swelling that was affecting Buchanan's vision. Instead of relying on ice, Thomas, with surgical precision, nicked the skin with a razor blade and drained out the blood, thereby allowing Buchanan to box brilliantly and retain the title.

As a boxer himself, though he held British, Empire and European titles he never fought for the world crown. He was about to meet Sugar Ray Robinson in 1951, but then the champion decided to move up to middleweight. Thomas's best result was a win over Billy Graham, who the experts believed should have been given the verdict over Kid Gavilan of Cuba in their first meeting in New York in 1951. Since Gavilan went on to become world champion, Thomas's victory over Graham said a good deal about his potential.

Like his father, Thomas was a coalminer. He went down the pits at the age of 14 but was also boxing at an early age. After winning the ABA lightweight title in 1946, he turned professional. Three years later, he took the British title from Henry Hall on points at Harringay Arena and by 1951 he had three titles under his belt.

He won the Empire crown in January 1951 by stopping Pat Patrick of South Africa in 13 rounds in Johannesburg and then in June lifted the European championship by outpointing Michele Palermo, of Italy, at Carmarthen, though the latter gave the much younger, stronger Thomas a good deal more trouble than might have been expected. As a boxer, Thomas often seemed to laze through some of the rounds, only exploding into activity after the remonstrations of his exasperated seconds.

He lost all three titles before the year was out. Wally Thom from Liverpool took his British and Empire titles from him in London after a strange contest. Thomas was at his most enigmatic that night, manifestly failing to capitalise on his superior ringcraft and more comprehensive arsenal of punches. By the time he floored his man briefly in the 13th, the contest had all but slid away from him and he did nothing in the final two rounds to exert the pressure on a young and rugged opponent of which he was clearly capable.

The loss of his European crown on points at Porthcawl on June 13, 1951, was a very different matter. Charles Humez of France was far too strong for Thomas who that night took a beating unexampled in his career.

Thomas always struggled to make the welterweight limit and had there been a light middleweight division at the time, he could have moved up and might well have prospered. As it was weight problems, his defeats and his damaged hands forced him into retirement in 1952, to the great benefit of training.

He bought an open cast mine outside Merthyr Tydfil with his ring earnings and combined the careers of mining and ring training for more than thirty years. In 1990 he became an independent councillor in a Labour-dominated Merthyr council and four years later became Mayor. He was appointed MBE for his services to British sport in 1984; his name was posted alongside those of great sportsmen in the Welsh Hall of Fame in 1991. Merthyr Tydfil made him a Freeman in 1992.

Thomas was always known as a generous man, and perhaps training and looking after his fighters was more his forte than management and the calculation of percentages. But it was his warmth of personality and his involvement in pugilism, the pits and local politics that made him one of the enduringly memorable personalities of Merthyr and the South Wales valleys.

Eddie Thomas is survived by his wife Kay, two sons and two daughters.

DOC CHEATHAM

Adolphus ("Doc") Cheatham, jazz trumpeter, died in Washington on June 2 aged 91. He was born in Nashville, Tennessee, on June 13, 1905.

A SUAVE and sophisticated musician, Doc Cheatham was among the best-loved figures in jazz. Though his career began in the 1920s, he achieved his biggest following late in life. Towards the end he became something of a New York institution, thanks to his Sunday afternoon appearances at Sweet Basil, the Greenwich Village jazz venue.

He remained active to the last: on the Saturday before his death he played to an appreciative audience at the Blues Alley club in Washington. One of his partners on the bandstand was the young trumpeter Nicholas Payton — some seventy years his junior — with whom he had recorded an album of relaxed duets released earlier this year.

Cheatham's career spanned almost the entire history of recorded jazz. One of his most prized possessions was a well-polished brass mute that had been given to him more than half a century earlier by the pioneering cornetist Joe "King" Oliver, mentor to the young Louis Armstrong.

Adolphus Cheatham was given his nickname by medical students with whom he played in a band in his native Nashville. His first experience of playing music came in a boys' club, called the Bright Future Stars. He soon began playing cornet and saxophone in a vaudeville theatre.

Among the players he worked with was the pianist Mary Lou Williams. She and her husband offered Cheatham a job in a touring company. Despite his parents' wish to enrol him in medical school, Cheatham accepted and set off on the arduous round of segregated theatres known as the Toba circuit — "Tough On Black Asses".

Settling in Chicago, he concentrated on trumpet and followed his contemporaries in absorbing the innovations made by of Louis Armstrong. In 1928, after playing with Wilbur de Paris, he set off for Europe as lead trumpet with the popular band led by the pianist Sam Wooding, and went on to spend around three years on the Continent, based in Berlin. In later years he would recall how, while his colleagues were out carousing during the off-duty hours, he would stay in his room and use a portable organ to study harmony.

Returning to America in 1930, Cheatham played lead with McKinney's Cotton Pickers before finding a lucrative niche with the Cab Calloway Orchestra until 1939, taking part in many performances at the legendary Cotton Club. Later his health broke down, and he travelled to Europe to convalesce.

Cheatham dropped from view when he was drafted for military service. Because of his age he was given the option of performing in a military band in the Pacific or working in the postal service. He chose the latter, and did not play professionally for some two years. Since the advent of bebop held little interest for him, he considered retiring altogether until he received an offer of work with Dixieland groups.

The following years brought steady but unspectacular music-making. For several years Cheatham played with Latin bands such as Machito's Orchestra. He was also reunited with Calloway and Wilbur de Paris, and in 1967 played with the Benny Goodman Sextet.

It was not until well past retirement age that his solo career began to blossom. With so many jazz legends either dead or inactive, audiences began to appreciate Cheatham's importance as a link with the music's vintage period. And, whereas most trumpeters find their powers waning in old age, Cheatham's playing seemed to grow in stature.

He found himself especially in demand at smaller, more intimate venues, where he was able to strike up an immediate rapport with his listeners. In 1980 he began his celebrated Sunday "brunch" sessions at Sweet Basil, where, usually accompanied by a trio, he regaled audiences with wry anecdotes and superb solos which roamed confidently through the upper register. His posture was distinctive: head tilted back, trumpet held almost vertical to allow the clearest possible passage of air.

In later years, encouraged by the earlier examples of Armstrong and Henry "Red" Allen, Cheatham brought singing into his routine, partly as a means of resting his embouchure. His early vocal efforts were not always appreciated by his fellow musicians, but he persevered, and eventually memorised scores of Tin Pan Alley songs. Daintily picking his way through the lyrics, he made even the oldest material sound fresh.

He continued to make regular visits to Europe. In London his stints at the Pizza Express cellar in Dean Street were invariably first-rate. In 1990 he celebrated ten years of performing at Sweet Basil. That same year he marked his 85th birthday with another sterling performance at the venue, greeted with a well-earned standing ovation and a champagne toast.

In 1992, Columbia Records honoured him by recording his group for its "Legendary Pioneers of Jazz" series, yielding a fine album, *The Eighty Seven Years of Doc Cheatham*. In 1996 he published his autobiography, *I Guess I'll Get the Papers and Go Home*, named after one of his favourite songs.

He is survived by his wife Nellie and their son and daughter.

GEORGE P. LIVANOS

George P. Livanos, Greek shipping magnate, died in Athens on June 1 aged 70. He was born on August 8, 1926.

GEORGE P. LIVANOS, who at his death operated the largest single merchant fleet of any Greek shipowner, was often confused with the George S. Livanos one of whose sisters was the first wife of Aristotle Onassis. Although both men maintained fairly low profiles throughout their careers — perhaps in reaction to Onassis's brightness in the firmament — George P. Livanos did as much as any of his colleagues to build post-war Greece into a formidable merchant shipping power.

His shipping company, Ceres, operates the familiar yellow Russian-built hydrofoils, known as Flying Dolphins, that in the past two decades have knit the Greek islands and the remoter Peloponnesian communities together for the benefit of tourist and commuter alike.

Born in New Orleans, George P. Livanos was an early product of the American business school system, which he combined with his Greek nationality to build up two major shipping operations, one in tankers and the other in passenger shipping. The tanker fleet runs 43 tankers and is a leading member of Intertanko (the Association of Independent Tanker Operators) which runs about 70 per cent of the world's independently-owned tanker fleet.

Realising the ambiguous image that tankers have, in these years of oil spills and ecological disasters, Livanos was the first Greek tycoon to work towards protecting the marine environment. In the early 1980s he set up the Hellenic Marine Environment Protection Association — better known by its acronym of Helmepa — and was its chairman for years until his final illness.

A further innovation was his setting up a representative office in Moscow before the fall of communism. An influential member of the Greek lobby in Washington, Livanos gave his support to the Democrat Michael Dukakis's bid for the American presidency in 1988.

Last year Livanos's 95 vessels accounted for well over two million gross registered tonnes, the largest single part of the Greek-flag fleet of some 28 million tonnes. He shunned flags of convenience: every Livanos ship flew the Greek flag, a principle which, at his funeral, was acknowledged when Greece's merchant marine minister, Stavros Sumakis, allowed a Greek flag to be draped over his coffin.

George Livanos was married to Fotini Carras of the Carras shipping family. She and his son Peter and daughter Maria survive him. During his father's illness, Peter had taken control of the Livanos shipping empire.

ON THIS DAY

June 4, 1956

Stalin broke with Tito in 1948, and did all he could, by fair means or foul, to bring down the Yugoslav leader; but Tito was determined to maintain his country's independence. He had the last word, and was given a hero's welcome when he visited Russia in 1956.

MARSHAL TITO'S TRIUMPH

GREAT WELCOME IN MOSCOW

From Our Special Correspondent

MOSCOW, June 3

Marshal Tito, who yesterday received a hero's welcome to Moscow, will pay separate calls to-morrow on Mr. Bulganin, the Russian Prime Minister, and Mr. Krushchev, the Communist Party First Secretary. Marshal Tito, his wife, and members of the Yugoslav delegation spent to-day visiting the agricultural exhibition in Moscow, the industrial exhibition, and the botanical gardens.

Greeting the Yugoslav party on their arrival on Saturday by rail, President Voroshilov expressed the conviction that Marshal Tito's visit would result in the expansion of political, economic, and cultural ties, and in "still more active Soviet-Yugoslav co-operation for the solution of topical international problems."

In his response, read in heavily accented Russian, Marshal Tito referred to the break between the two nations as "unprecedented and tragic, for which neither the peoples of Yugoslavia nor the peoples of the Soviet Union were to blame." By the choice of those words at the outset of his visit, Marshal Tito seemed clearly to place the blame for the disaffection in 1948 on Stalin.

Referring to the period of Yugoslav expulsion from the Cominform, Marshal Tito said: "It was hard for us, but we believed that the time would come when everything that disunited us would be overcome, and our friendship would receive a new, strong basis. This time came, thanks to the Leninist policy of the Government and central committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. All that is now behind us."

He said that the visit to Belgrade last year of Mr. Krushchev, Mr. Bulganin, Mr. Mikoyan, and others, the joint declaration signed at the end of their visit, and the far-sighted foreign policy being followed by collective leadership of the Soviet Union, served as a guarantee that the disagreeable events of the past would not be repeated.

Marshal Tito must have experienced considerable personal satisfaction at his reception yesterday in Moscow, which had an element of triumph in it. After incurring for five years consistent invective from the Russians, he was cheered by thousands of Muscowites lining the broad avenues in warm sunlight. The Marshal, who was wearing a bluish-grey uniform adorned with gold and red, waved from the back from an open car which was escorted by motor cycle outriders.

Moscow took on a holiday for the occasion. Loudspeakers broadcast Macedonian and Serbian songs. Usually these loudspeakers are used only on national holidays, such as May Day and the anniversary of the revolution. Red banners flew from the lamp posts. The Moscow television service began transmission two hours earlier than usual to cover the proceedings at the station.

With the other Russian leaders at the station was Mr. Molotov, whose resignation as Foreign Minister was announced on Friday night.

PERSONAL COLUMN

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PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: Burwood Park School
Scheme for the regulation of the charity
Reference: CR-58838
The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity. A copy can be seen for the next month at the offices of Mundays Solicitors, Crown House, Church Road, Claygate, Esher, Surrey KT10 0LP, or a copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St. Alban's House, 57-60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX, quoting the above reference number. Dated the 2nd day of June 1997

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: The Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches - 273454
Scheme for appointment of trustee
Reference: LB/45413/CDCT
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Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Annual General Meeting of SCOTTISH AMICABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society ("the Society") will be held at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre, Glasgow on 27 June 1997 at 12 noon (or as soon thereafter as the Special General Meeting convened for 11.00 a.m. on the same date and at the same place is concluded or adjourned) for the following purposes:-

(a) to consider the Report and Accounts for 1996 together with the Directors' and Auditors' Reports thereon;
(b) to reappoint the following directors who retire by rotation:
(i) (As Resolution 1) P. L. A. Jamieson; and
(ii) (As Resolution 2) I. A. Spens;
(c) (As Resolution 3) to reappoint Ernst & Young as auditors and to authorise the directors to fix their remuneration; and
(d) (As Resolution 4) to approve the remuneration to be paid to the directors.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
James C. Mitchell
Secretary

Principal Office:
P.O. Box 25, Craigforth
Stirling FK9 4UE

NOTES:
1. Any member entitled to vote at meetings of the Society (a "Voting Member") is entitled to appoint another person (who need not be a member of the Society) as his proxy to attend the Annual General Meeting and vote instead of him. A proxy who is not himself a Voting Member is not entitled to speak at the Annual General Meeting except to demand or join in demanding a poll.
2. Forms of proxy and the power of attorney or other authority, if any, under which they are signed, or a notarially certified copy of such power or authority, should be deposited at the principal office of the Society, Craigforth, Stirling FK9 4YU not later than 12.00 noon on 25 June 1997. The lodging of a form of proxy will not prevent a Voting Member from voting in person at the Annual General Meeting, if he or she wishes to do so.
3. It is important that Voting Members intending to vote personally bring with them to the Annual General Meeting the letter accompanying their form of proxy or, failing that, details of their policy number(s) and some means of identification. Holders of proxies should bring with them to the Annual General Meeting details of the policy number(s) in respect of which they have been appointed proxy and some means of identification. On arrival at the Annual General Meeting, please register with the officials who will be at the door. Registration will commence at 10.00 a.m.

Scottish Amicable

Why Channel 5 is failing to get a following

Lesson one: do not forget to tune the telly

At the finale of the Hay Literary Festival I had the fun of interviewing Keith Waterhouse, the doyen of newspaper columnists, who has written *Streets Ahead*, a book about Fleet Street in the hilarious hot-metal days.

The pleasure was mixed with wariness, however, because I live in constant fear of breaking the commandments for columnists that he once laid down in the *British Journalism Review*. Chief among these was, in effect, "Thou shall not quote". Columnists are supposed to give their own opinions, not somebody else's.

There: I've broken it already, so I shall proceed to break it again. If I declared: "Nobody anticipated Channel 5's signal would be so weak. The frequency they operate on is outside the range of most people's aerials. There is nothing they can do to improve reception," you wouldn't believe me, because I'm not a technical writer. So thanks to Barry Fox, who writes for technical publications, including *New Scientist*, even if he brings gloomy news.

BRENDA MADDOX

In my own voice I can say that Channel 5's efforts in educating the public about its reception have been a public relations disaster. Imagine starting a flashy new restaurant, taking big advertisements to proclaim the skills of the chef and then neglecting to tell people how to find it.

The PR trouble can be summarised in the difference between "tune" and "retune". Channel 5 spent so much effort in publicising the way it was retuning video recorders (to avoid the new channel interfering with video, cable or satellite pictures) that it forgot to tell people that they needed to tune their television set to get the channel at all. Of the two operations, tuning was by far the more important: the essential to building an audience. Many British homes are in areas where videos did not require retuning. Because of all the hoo-ha about retuning, some viewers, not having had a call from the retuner, did not even try to find 5 for themselves. Many have yet to watch even one programme on it.

How could Channel 5 have missed this obvious first step in public education? Its primary-colour posters and on-screen logo are brilliant: the retuning of millions of homes was carried out with impressive smoothness. The reason is, I suspect, that the uncertainities about the eventual picture quality of the channel loomed so large and dark that in the rush to get 5 on the air by Easter, the best tactic seemed "less said, the better". Also, Channel 5 can do little to help with the tuning operation itself. Its main advice to those who wanted to bring up 5 at the press of a button has been a cheery "You can do it yourself". Many people cannot.

The first step in tuning your set for Channel 5, "Consult your TV manual", should actually be the second. The first instruction should be on how to find where you put this document. There are undoubtedly households that cherish the book of words that came with the television set and keep it, covered in plastic, chained to the box. Ours, alas, has been long lost, along with the instructions in Portuguese and Finnish on how to unclog the waste disposal.

Luckily, my son was in temporary residence in London last week. Being both something of a techie and a football fan, he managed to get the set tuned in time for Saturday's Poland-England match. Yet even he did not find it a simple matter, and the satellite option was no help.

Merely to find out where the fault lies for your home's poor reception of Channel 5 can cost money. The charge for a house call from my local aerial installers is £35 plus VAT. For that, a friendly expert will tell you whether you need to buy a new aerial (upwards of £90), get some add-ons for the satellite receiver (at somewhat less if he can be sure what you need) or just tune the set for you. All that presumes that you want to watch the programmes. The quality of these, even of the football commentary, hardly matters. Programmes, performances and the choice of movies can be improved over time. Inadequate reception cannot — at least, not without the kind of investment that makes Channel 5 something other than what it purports to be: the last of the free terrestrial channels.

The higher reaches of techno-fear go far beyond an inability to tune Channel 5 or set the video recorder. A few months ago I made an earnest attempt to install new software to make my personal computer Internet-worthy. Not only did I fail, but somehow the struggle made it impossible for me any longer to enter the magic doorway called Windows. I phoned my suppliers' helpline, where one of those unnaturally patient, doctor-like voices, trained to accept that mortal stupidity knows no limits, asked me what my screen was showing instead. I described the Windows logo that glowed faintly at me, refusing to budge.

"What you have," diagnosed the man of science, "is what we call 'the Blue Screen of Death'." Windows, it seems, having taken umbrage at the attempted intrusion, has departed my computer, leaving just a grinning ghost of itself in its place. No letters, please.

Britain's TV buyers are in LA looking for the next hit series, says **Giles Whittell**

In search of a blockbuster

It was probably only a matter of time before a studio in search of a television hit came up with the idea of a series on the life and longings of a lingerie tycoon. Fleshed out, as it were, that idea now has a title — *Veronica's Closet* — and a well-known star, Kirstie Alley. Second only to Steven Spielberg's sequel to *Jurassic Park*, it is suddenly the talk of Hollywood.

So far, the pilot episode of this *Baywatch*-meets-*Dynasty* concoction has been shown only to jet-lagged executives in a plush private cinema on the Warner Brothers back lot. But as surely as prime time follows the early evening news, it will be coming soon to a sitting room near you.

This is the season of the LA Screenings. For the past two weeks teams of programme-buyers, including several from Britain, have been descending on Los Angeles to install themselves in expensive hotel suites and view the American television industry's latest offerings. Spearheaded by *Veronica's Closet*, many will end up competing for your leisure hours as *ER* and *Seinfeld* do already.

There are no fewer than 140 new dramas and sitcoms to choose from this year. Dozens seem aimed rather desperately at the inner teenager in us all. Take *Roar*, for instance, a "medieval action drama" from Universal Television set in AD 450 when "Attila the Hun is on the move and Vandals are sacking Rome".

Or *Meego*, in which Bronson Pinchot, who was a gay art gallery assistant in *Beverly Hills Cop*, plays a nanny from outer space.

The subject matter can seem fatuous but the stakes are high. For the big studios, the LA Screenings are when much of the heavy sales work behind America's huge cultural export drive is done. Scattered across town in hotels and private screening rooms, they lack the coherence and glamour of a film festival such as Cannes, but pull in big bucks.

According to *Variety*, American companies earned $2.5 billion last year selling dramas and sitcoms to traditional networks overseas, and $1 billion more from sales to foreign cable and satellite broadcasters. The going rate for combined foreign sales of a top-notch, hour-long drama such as *ER* is $750,000 an episode, and rising.

British buyers grumble about the inflation, but they keep coming. The BBC sent a team of five (to the $300-a-night Bel-Air Hotel). ITV and Channel 4 sent seven each to the marginally less opulent Four Seasons and Peninsula hotels. BSkyB sent five.

All are prospecting for the odd gem that recent experience tells them should be hidden in a glossy but otherwise indifferent field — "a *Millennium* or a *Murder One*", as Jeffrey Ford of ITV put it.

If they've found what they are looking for, they aren't saying. The buzz surrounding *Veronica's Closet* has been caused by American advertisers labelling it a surefire success and by a record-breaking bid from WIC Television, a Canadian broadcaster. The Brits admit privately that one of them will end up buying the new underwear drama, but they are famously cagey at the Screenings.

"There's no hot ticket like last year," says Ford. "There are lots of good shows but not one that knocks your socks off and says, 'This is a show you *have* to have'." Colin Leventhal of Channel 4, which has vowed to cut the amount of programming it buys from abroad, echoes him: "It is not a vintage year."

Still, no one is likely to go home empty-handed. Having learnt from experience that American comedies seldom travel well (*Seinfeld* and *Friends* excepted), the studios have laid on a smorgasbord of the one-hour drama series that sell best abroad. They come in three categories: law and order, futuristic fantasy and mild titillation.

In a week when America's violent-crime rate plunged by 11 per cent, fictionalised crime remains a growth industry. *Brooklyn South* is the closest thing to "hot". Asked about viewers' response to it at screenings, a promoter said: "The understatement would be 'through the roof'." Ford agrees that it will probably grace British screens within the next two years.

Universal's *Timecop* straddles the law-and-order and science-fiction categories as neatly as its name suggests. Whether British audiences will find time for a series based on a failed film starring Jean-Claude Van Damme is moot.

If not, comparable fare includes *The Visitor* (from the director of *Independence Day*), *Sleepwalkers* (about doctors entering patients' dreams) and *Hungry for Survival* ("What if a human sub-species evolved with a different strand of DNA that made it sociopathic?"). Oh, and *Meego*.

As for titillation, look no further than the company that handles international sales of *Baywatch*. The Fremantle Corporation, headed by Paul Talbot, is now also pushing a peculiar hybrid series, *Bondi*, named after the Sydney beach. Its cast play athletes from the Atlanta Olympics recruited for such skills as pole vaulting and javelin throwing to form an anti-terrorist squad for Sydney's 2000 Games. "There will be beach scenes and beautiful bodies, male and female," Talbot says with barely a hint of self-mockery. "The bodies will not be exploited for the camera, because the characters portrayed are athletes."

Which channel gets which series at what price is determined by secret and sometimes tense negotiations, now in progress, that Talbot describes as "a marvellous mating dance developed over the years in order for the species to survive".

One thing is certain. *Baywatch* itself is far from dead. Now launching its eighth season, this festival of tans and Lycra remains the most-watched programme on the planet. In Britain it will stay on ITV, early on Saturday evenings. In Bosnia and Rwanda you might need a satellite dish.

Top bods: Donna D'Errica and Traci Bingham launch the new *Baywatch*

BUZZ FACTOR — TOP NEW SHOWS

1. VERONICA'S CLOSET: drama about lingerie tycoon: Warner Bros TV
2. BROOKLYN SOUTH: drama about two street cops: Steven Bochco
3. ALLY McBEAL: legal drama with female lead; Fox TV
4. MICHAEL HAYES: legal drama, David Caruso: NBC
5. DELLAVENTURA: Danny Aiello as private eye; CBS
6. TIMECOP: based on the futuristic film: Universal TV
7. DHARMA AND GREG: sitcom about hippy woman and square lawyer; Fox TV
8. NOTHING SACRED: drama about troubled young priest; Fox TV

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Woodhead gets full backing of No 10

Tony Blair gave Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, a public vote of confidence yesterday, inviting him to Downing Street to assure him that he had the Government's full backing in raising school standards.

Their hour-long meeting, attended also by David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, was Mr Blair's warning to teacher unions that he would override their opposition to Mr Woodhead.

Last week the National Association of Head Teachers' conference passed a vote of no confidence in the chief inspector.

Rover scraps ad

The Rover car company has withdrawn a television advertisement featuring a blindfolded hostage being released after a diplomatic exchange in a barren landscape. Rover said it and the Independent Television Commission had received complaints about the appropriateness of the advertisement at a time of hostage tension involving Britons. Rover apologised for any offence it had caused.

Kids go to No 10

Cherie Blair is to mark Budget day by opening up the garden of 10 Downing Street to youngsters from the Kids' Club Network, which organises after-school activities for the children of working parents. The Prime Minister's wife has also taken the lead in ensuring that Downing Street's block of tickets for the annual Trooping the Colour ceremony will go to disadvantaged young people.

Harrier jet escape

An RAF pilot ejected to safety before the Harrier jet he was flying crashed in the Scottish borders. The jet came down in woods five miles southeast of Newton Stewart, Dumfries and Galloway. The pilot, who was on a routine training flight, was able to walk to nearby farmhouse. Another Harrier pilot ejected to safety two weeks ago when his plane crashed near Ely, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire.

Nuclear des res

A fire authority is to reap an unexpected peace dividend as a result of the ending of the Cold War by selling a bunker which was originally designed as a nuclear war control centre. West Midlands Fire and Civil Defence Authority hopes that the concrete building, which has no natural light, or toilets, will fetch at least £100,000 because of its location in popular suburban Coldfield.

Jurassic tape find

A pirate copy of the Steven Spielberg film *Jurassic Park: The Lost World*, which an estimated 11 million fans on the video market have been waiting for, was found by customs officers. Two Scotsmen were intercepted at Glasgow Airport carrying the tape along with pirate copies of the other American films. The film is scheduled for general release in Britain on July 18.

Airship lift-off

The RAC airship *Spirit of Mobility*, which will advertise the motoring organisation's presence above British skies this summer, set off on its maiden voyage over Bristol. It will appear over major events, including the Henley Royal Regatta and the British Grand Prix at Silverstone, and will be used to spot traffic blackspots and relay pictures to the ground.

Exam abandoned

An exam being taken by 200 students was halted after 6 minutes yesterday because the answers were written on the backs of test papers. It would have provided 60 per cent of marks for a first-year information technology course at the London School of Economics, but course officials said an assignment to be completed away from the college will now be marked.

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THE LISTENER
THE NEWS BEHIND THE HEADLINES

Unhappy inside Camelot

FRAYED tempers in the Camelot press office, where staff have been flat out defending their directors' astronomical pay rises. When news of the scandal broke last week, workers were brought to exhaustion as phones went into overdrive and they had to field hundreds of questions from grumpy journalists.

The task was not made any easier by the fact that while the menials (average salary, £18,000) slaved away, some of the directors were enjoying foreign climes. **David Rigg**, recipient of a 90 per cent rise, spent the week in France with his wife and children while **Sir George Russell** was on non-Camelot business in America. One executive, told by a worker about the mounting pressure, replied: "What on earth do you think you're paid for?"

Lottery loser

DESPITE misgivings about Camelot, **Chris Smith** still likes a flutter every Saturday. Mr Smith has chosen his numbers based on simple things like his age and his dog's birthday. But Lady Luck has failed to smile on the Heritage Secretary; he is yet to win a bean. "I play every week

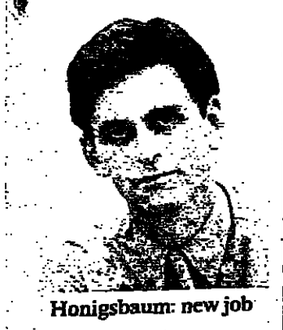
Smith: Camelot flutter

but I have never won even £10," he says, cheerfully. His unlucky numbers are 7, 12, 24, 27, 33, 45.

● *EVIDENCE comes that some of the more excitable members of Labour's Millbank Tendency have not heeded warnings against triumphalism. After the release last week of a BBC video,* Election '97, *a new party game is being played by young apparatchiks. They watch the highlights of the election night coverage, taking a swig from their glasses every time another Tory seat falls and a double glug for each former Cabinet minister. The last one left standing is "Prime Minister" for the evening.*

Farewell Max

MARK HONIGSBAUM, a top feature writer on the *Evening Standard*, is leaving to join the *Independent on Sunday*. After he wrote of the criminal histories of five IRA prisoners alleged to have broken out of Whitemoor prison, their trial was abandoned, and his Editor, **Max Hastings**, apologised in court.



Honigsbaum: new job

Last month it was announced that contempt proceedings were being brought against Hastings.

Frontline Sadler

NEVER one for the quiet life, the ex-ITN reporter **Brent Sadler** has accepted the job of reopening CNN's bureau in Beirut. Sadler has been picked partly for his journalistic skills and partly because he isn't American. The US Government bans all its citizens, including journalists, from travelling to Lebanon because it is considered too dangerous. CNN closed its Beirut bureau in 1985 after its correspondent Jerry Levin was kidnapped, escaping after 100 days. "Lebanon remains a melting pot of conflicting interests," says British-born Sadler. "The southern tip of the country is still a war zone."

It's not as though Sadler doesn't have enough excitement in his life. He is married to Tess Stimson, bestselling author of steamy novels, who is expecting their second child in September.

Fact, fiction and the F-factor

Lis Howell may have been sacked by GMTV but she has used the experience as a rich source of material for her autobiographical novels. **Jason Cowley** reports

Lis Howell spends her days working in what she calls the "cut-throat, ego-driven, largely male" world of television. She spends the evenings turning her experiences into fiction. As the former GMTV executive humiliatingly sacked before the station was six weeks old, she is not short of material. Her last days at GMTV were marked with discord over collapsing ratings and the loss of two million viewers, panic provoked by the vibrancy of *The Big Breakfast*, and much bluster over the "F-factor", of having fanciable presenters.

Despite being happily installed for the past three years as head of UK Living, the satellite channel that broadcasts 18 hours a day of light entertainment and discussion for women, Howell remains bitter about what is perceived as her failure at GMTV. She insists, too, that there was nothing wrong with the concept of the F-factor: that she was correct to urge Fiona Armstrong and other senior broadcasters to wear shorter skirts. "I want viewers to fancy the presenters," she famously said, before telling Armstrong to chew on a coat-hanger to bring out her smile.

Armstrong later accused Howell of "delivering her on a plate" to spiteful columnists, and complained that "the shape of my calves, colour of my hair and the frequency of my smile" dominated the opening weeks of the launch of GMTV.

"The whole F-factor thing got so out of hand," Howell says, sitting in her cramped, untidy Soho office. She has a light, giggly voice that betrays traces of her early years in Liverpool and Manchester. "Fiona must have been humiliated by all the fuss, but I don't regret what I said to her because that was my job. I know when Fiona subsequently lost her job and her agent was looking for someone to blame, I took more flak. But the F-factor concept isn't wrong. Fiona Phillips, Anthea Turner, Gaby Roslin: they all have it. Looking attractive on television is a big part of the job . . ."

Her voice trails away and her eyes glaze over. Something has caught her attention on the television in a corner of her office which she monitors diligently throughout the interview. She does not wish to miss a moment of UK Living.

Under the terms of her severance contract she is legally obliged not to talk about the background to her dismissal, although much of her unspoken frustration is in the novels. At times, her books read as little more than veiled autobiography. Her male characters are especially nefarious, ruthlessly dismissive of the aspirations of women.

Reading these novels you wonder: a) what really happened to Howell that she should have such a disturbed and vengeful imagination; and b) why, if she feels like this about television, has she not turned her back on the whole thing and opted for a quiet life?

Howell, 46, joined the launch team of GMTV in autumn 1991 from Sky News, where as managing editor she had streamlined the news desk with ruthless efficiency. There were many redundancies. "Although these were unfortunate they had to be made. The business had to succeed; someone had to make money. The payoffs at Sky weren't

> 'I suffered a long drawn out death by a thousand pricks — in every sense'

dreadful and many of those made redundant, because of their experience at Sky, were more marketable than before. In the end, I got the rotas working."

At Sky, and before that as head of news at Border Television, she was used to the uncertainty and labyrinthine politics of office life. Nothing could prepare her, however, for what she encountered at GMTV, where she says she suffered "a long drawn-out death by a thousand pricks — and in every sense".

"I agreed to join because, at the time, I believed in [the executive management team] Greg Dyke, Christopher Bland and Hugh Pile. I know now that you can be too easily led by reputation. I think many of the people involved in those franchise applications in 1991 were overly triumphalist. They assumed that they were going to be successful."

During her last days at GMTV Howell felt helpless and abandoned. "The [then] chairman Greg Dyke had clearly lost interest in her," says a friend. "She even had to book appointments to see him."

Howell remembers encountering Dyke in the corridor shortly before she was dismissed. As they passed, Dyke reached out to ruffle her hair. "It was gross. You know, I can still feel those awful fingertips. I saw him the other day. He said to my boss: 'Does she still hate me?' I said: 'Read the books'."

When the end finally came it was brutal. "They took the car, the mobile phone, the keys — everything. The day before I was sacked I was driving to see my parents. Alex [her teenage daughter] was in the back. The phone rang: it was [her boss] Chris Stoddart. He said: 'I've got to see you tomorrow. I'm afraid it's the worst.' At that moment, Alex was sick. I remember saying to myself, 'I'm not going to clean this car before returning it'."

Despite once having turned down a job on the women's pages of a regional paper, for fear of being marginalised, Howell feels fulfilled at UK Living. Her only regret is that she only spends weekends with her partner, Ian Pronewicz, who does her old job as head of news at Border. "The arrangement seems to work. Having separate territories might actually be good for you as you get older, although I guess it could eventually lead to strain."

UK Living has a plodding predictability — "light and fluffy" is how Howell describes its programmes about fashion, families, relationships and health. One wonders if such material underestimates the intelligence of many women?

"I accept there's a lot of fluffy stuff," she says peaceably enough. "But some of our shows are incredibly hard, exploring tough, complex issues. The station addresses 52 per cent of the population; our audience is about five or six million per week — far better figures than most women's magazines."

You suspect, though, that more than anything else she relishes the fact that she is still around. "I was psychologically killed off at GMTV," she says. "In a competitive business like television, where there are big egos and money, people will always look to exploit other people's flaws. There is a feeling that women are more vulnerable — that their mistakes are due to the fact that they are neurotic or menopausal.

"I know that if I'd gone away or had a nervous breakdown there were people who would have been delighted. Instead, I got on with my life and found another job."

● *A Job to Die For is published by Coronet at £5.99 (Thursday)*

ROBIN MAYES

Lis Howell: her books contain a coded message for her former boss at GMTV's launch. Greg Dyke

Private affairs and public warfare

Alan Rusbridger, Editor of *The Guardian*, has fluttered editorial dovecotes by uttering the unutterable and suggesting a deal with politicians and the courts over a new law of privacy. Among journalists, the suggestion amounts to heresy, and Rusbridger is only the second editor — after Andrew Marr of *The Independent* — who has broken from the united ranks of Fleet Street, where editors have been fighting shoulder to shoulder for a decade against attempts to introduce new laws on press conduct.

Yet that generation of editors had stood together, Rusbridger argued in his recent James Cameron Memorial Lecture, because it would have been fatal to concede a privacy law without a compensating bias towards easier libel laws or freedom of information.

"The result is that we have, effectively, been driven to defend the indefensible. We have stood by and watched a decade of intrusive stories published and meekly held our silence . . . in the name of precisely what public good?."

At *The Mirror*, the Editor Piers Morgan, who once edited the *News of the World*, describes himself as "incandescent" about Rusbridger's idea. He says it would destroy the mass-market tabloids and the stories their readers want: "I will not be lectured on a privacy law by a former *Guardian* gossip columnist who daily invaded privacy."

Phil Hall, the Editor of the *News of the World*, agrees: a privacy law would protect the Establishment and mean more corruption, fraud and misbehaviour in high places. Would *The Guardian*, he asks, have been able to expose Neil Hamilton, the former Tatton MP whom Rusbridger named as "a liar and a cheat", if there were a privacy law?

Rusbridger is unrepentant. Since it looks as if there is going to be a privacy law from the new Government, surely, he argues, it is better to negotiate on the basis of a *quid pro quo* — the courts giving a little on freedom of information, the Government on freedom of information, and the media on intrusive journalism. The result could be a new right of privacy, a new right to free expression, and a new right to know.

"I would happily sacrifice the freedom to expose the love-life of a BBC weather forecaster to 11 million prurient eyes if it meant that the courts would give greater protection to papers or broadcasters reporting corruption or dishonesty in public life."

Hall and Morgan resent Rusbridger's comments and accuse him of hypocrisy. "*The Guardian* specialises in dis-

> 'For ten years, editors have fought new laws'

secting tabloid scandals," says Morgan. "When Bob Geldof and Paula Yates split up I had a *Guardian* journalist on the phone asking for a full briefing on their marriage."

It was the *News of the World* that exposed the BBC weather forecaster cited by Rusbridger. Hall has no regrets: "He had been marketing himself as a family man when his behaviour was totally different."

Both also argue that the tabloids' behaviour has improved hugely since the establishment of the Press Complaints Commission. The PCC confirms this, saying only one in eight complaints is about invasion of privacy, and only a handful are upheld.

Among Rusbridger's fellow broadsheet editors, only Peter Stothard at *The Times* is resolutely opposed to a privacy law, which he describes as a "fool's bargain". Any Bill would be like a Christmas tree, hung with a few presents that editors and ministers genuinely sought to exchange, and a mass of unexpected and unwanted offerings from hostile MPs.

At *The Daily Telegraph*, Charles Moore believes there is a good case for a tort of privacy on the same lines as the tort of libel, but not for a criminal law. If self-regulation demonstrably fails, Marr sees a *prima facie* case for a privacy law that allows investigation of financial misconduct but bars intrusive reporting of private lives.

Yet Lord Wakeham, chairman of the PCC and once chairman of a Thatcher Cabinet inquiry into a tort of privacy, shares Stothard's reservations. Privacy laws, he believes, would never be used by those who found themselves at the receiving end of intrusive media attention — but by those who wanted to stop any publication investigating and, with merit, exposing them.

Until recently Paul Johnson, star columnist of the *Daily Mail* and *The Spectator* and a harsh critic of Rusbridger's *Guardian*, has been a lone voice arguing for a privacy law.

What matters is that it should be a good, simple Bill making invasion of privacy a civil tort, but decided by a jury, with a well-phrased defence of public interest, says Johnson. He welcomes a convert to the cause but wonders if Rusbridger realises the effect a privacy law would have on some of *The Guardian's* own journalism.

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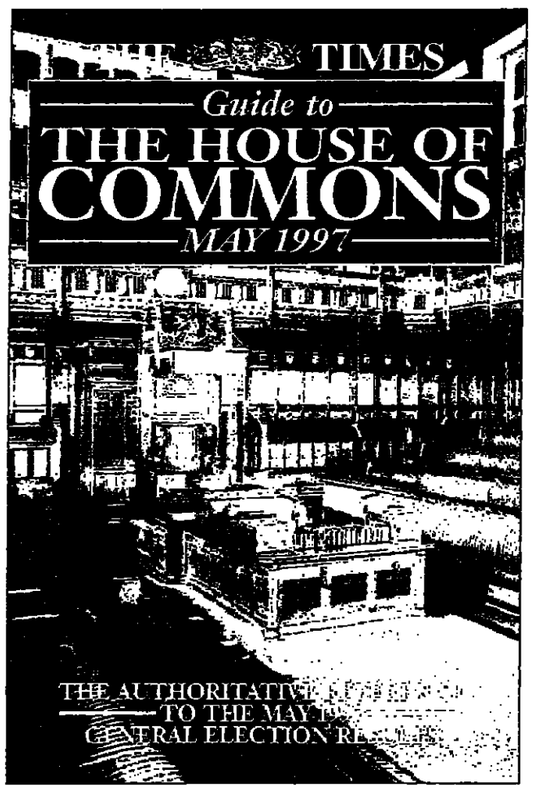

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THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Labour gives women new voice

■ Harriet Harman set out her plans to give women a more powerful voice in the corridors of power yesterday.

She is to establish Cabinet and Civil Service organisations to concentrate on women's issues, and aims to promote policies that will help women not only to get jobs but also to reach the top. Her objective was to "create a bond of trust between women and government and to ensure that the Government delivers its promises," she said ..... Page 1

Speeding curbs aim to cut road deaths

■ A clampdown on speeding is being planned to curb the death toll caused by motorists driving too fast. Heavier fines, stricter enforcement of speed limits and better use of cameras are among moves being examined. Existing speed limits will also be reviewed ..... Page 1

Building strike threat

Building union leaders are threatening the first national stoppage for 25 years in a dispute over pay ..... Page 1

Terrorists banned

Two breakaway terrorist groups that have launched sectarian attacks in Northern Ireland were outlawed as the Government stepped up its response to the upsurge in violence ..... Page 2

Ashmolean snubbed

A leading American curator has snubbed the British art world by turning down the directorship of the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford five months after formally accepting the post ..... Page 3

Signs of the times

Lionel Wolfe spent more than 60 years hanging around stage doors in wait for the celebrities of the day. The results of his obsession — autograph books bearing 20,000 signatures — are to be auctioned ..... Page 5

Summer school

Almost 900 children who leave primary school without reaching expected standards in reading will be invited to lessons over the summer holiday ..... Page 7

Surging ahead

Thrust SSC, Britain's land speed record car, edged closer to its target of breaking the sound barrier in the Al Jafr desert in Jordan ..... Page 8

Lonely heart

The founder of the Dateline dating agency, who built a multi-million pound empire by bringing lonely people together, died a recluse, broken by alcohol, an inquest was told ..... Page 12

Majority ruling

Britain agreed with its European partners on the outline of a deal which would let the European Union run its foreign policy partly through majority decision-making ..... Page 14

Kohl drops gold plan

Helmut Kohl's Government has dropped plans to use national gold reserves in an attempt to meet European economic and monetary union targets for 1997 ..... Page 15

Foreigners flee

The British High Commissioner in Sierra Leone and more than 1,200 other foreigners abandoned the embattled capital and were making their way to Guinea aboard a US warship ..... Page 16

Tiananmen vigil

Tens of thousands are expected to take part tonight in what may be the last demonstration in Hong Kong to mark the Tiananmen Square killings of 1989 ... Page 16

McVeigh may die

The jurors who convicted Timothy McVeigh of the Oklahoma bombing will decide today whether he should die ..... Page 17

Yorkshire bride warms to Eskimo life

■ Tracking caribou and making clothes from skins are not things a scientist's daughter from Leeds generally needs to master to be a good wife. But for Jo Matthews they are everyday skills in her marriage to an Eskimo who rescued her father from death after his canoe foundered. She has set up home with him in frozen northern Canada ..... Page 12

JOHN H. PAUL

A cask of whisky travels from the Talisker distillery on Skye to the Island of Eigg yesterday. The special malt is a gift from United Distillers to mark the purchase of Eigg by residents from its German owner for £1.5 million. The whisky will be ready to celebrate the new millennium

BUSINESS

Amstrad: Alan Sugar is to take £68 million of cash out of Amstrad, the company he created, as part of its restructuring ..... Page 27

Halifax: Shareholders in the former building society suffered disappointment as the shares fell 10p to close at 724½p ..... Page 27

Oasis: The high street fashion retailer issued a profit warning yesterday, just weeks after directors and members of the family who control the company sold more than £5.5 million worth of shares ..... Page 27

Markets: The FT-SE 100 fell 5.0 points to close at 4557.8. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 99.8 to 100.0 after a rise from $1.6327 to $1.6362 and from DM2.8184 to DM2.8244 ... Page 30

SPORT

Football: Tottenham Hotspur have accepted a transfer request from Teddy Sheringham after the breakdown of negotiations with the club chairman, Alan Sugar ..... Page 52

Cricket: Steve Waugh, Australia's vice-captain, offered unequivocal support to his beleaguered captain, Mark Taylor, in the build-up to the first Test ..... Page 52

Tennis: The defending champions in the men's and women's singles, Yevgeni Kafelnikov and Steffi Graf, were knocked out of the French Open by Gustavo Kuerten and Amanda Coetzer ..... Page 52

Racing: Willie Ryan, whose last Derby mount unseated him, has picked up the plum spare ride on Benny The Dip in this year's race ..... Page 47

ARTS

William the Concreter: A row has erupted in France over a radical new addition to a medieval castle in Normandy — a barbican in dark concrete and steel ..... Page 37

High kicks: Not content with penning award-winning plays, Martin Sherman has translated his obsession with dance into a film, *Alive and Kicking* ..... Page 37

Curtain up: Amid continuing talk of backstage troubles, English National Opera has revealed its plans for the new season. We talk to the men at the top ..... Page 38

Bowie unbowed: At a London gig David Bowie belted out songs old and new on a spectacular energy level and at crushing volume, with no hint of sentimentality or softness ..... Page 39

FEATURES

Dare to bare: Deborah Brett finds hosiery that holds the key to the bare-legged summer look.. Page 18

Vicious circle: "We should do everything to try to ensure that poverty is not self-perpetuating," writes Nigella Lawson, congratulating Tony Blair on his Aylesbury speech ..... Page 19

MEDIA

Out of tune: "Imagine starting a flashy new restaurant, taking big advertisements to proclaim the skills of the chef, then neglecting to tell people how to find it." Brenda Maddox on Channel 5's failure to get viewers tuned in ..... Page 24

TV menu: As British TV buyers go to Los Angeles in search of the next hit series, Giles Whittell reports on likely imports ..... Page 24

HOMES

Country life: Buying your way into a rural lifestyle is not easy — but it can be done ..... Page 36

THE PAPERS

Should we be afraid of Monsieur Jospin? He is a skilful tactician, capable of navigating without difficulty between the currents of the Left while maintaining the respect of the Communist Party. He is a man of state, of the rigorous and honest sort, who will have the respect of institutions and the general interest at heart — *Le Figaro*

TV LISTINGS

Preview: It ends in tears for Peter Mandelson. *The Chair* (BBC2, 7.05pm) **Review:** Pigs who play to the camera ..... Pages 50, 51

OPINION

Blunt instruments

There is a certain irony in the paving legislation for the Scottish parliament, and the Welsh assembly, being hurried through the House of Commons ..... Page 21

Righting reading

It is encouraging that the Government is concentrating so hard on the three Rs — and particularly on remedial education for the long tail of underachievers in our school system ..... Page 21

Rome in a day

All roads do not lead to Rome — except metaphorically. But every road in Rome leads on to eternity ..... Page 21

COLUMNS

SIMON JENKINS

Mr Blair visited Ulster. He smiled. He told the Protestants there would be no Irish unity in his lifetime. He charmed everyone and offended everyone in traditional Anglo-Irish fashion ..... Page 20

TIM HAMES

The American judicial system has not been "redeemed" by the McVeigh verdict. All that has been shown is that, in the right circumstances, a verdict can be obtained that chimes with mainstream opinion. There is much that could be done to ensure that trials focus more firmly on the core evidence ..... Page 20

SIMON BARNES

As the runners parade before the Derby at Epsom, most will see a file of horses; but those who know will see not an individual, but also sire and dam, grandsire, the significant sire on the distaff side, on and on back into the mists of generation ..... Page 50

OBITUARIES

Eddie Thomas, boxer and trainer; **Doc Cheatham**, jazz trumpeter; **George P. Livanos**, Greek shipping magnate ..... Page 23

LETTERS

Single currency; status of teachers; school prayers; Latin epigrams; Mandelson on advisers at No 10; banning films; World Cup embargo on Nigeria ..... Page 21

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ FILMS
Geoff Brown tries to make sense of *The Fifth Element*, starring Bruce Willis

■ BOOKS
Russell Celyn Jones on Christ's temptation; Peter Stothard on ancient Greek passions

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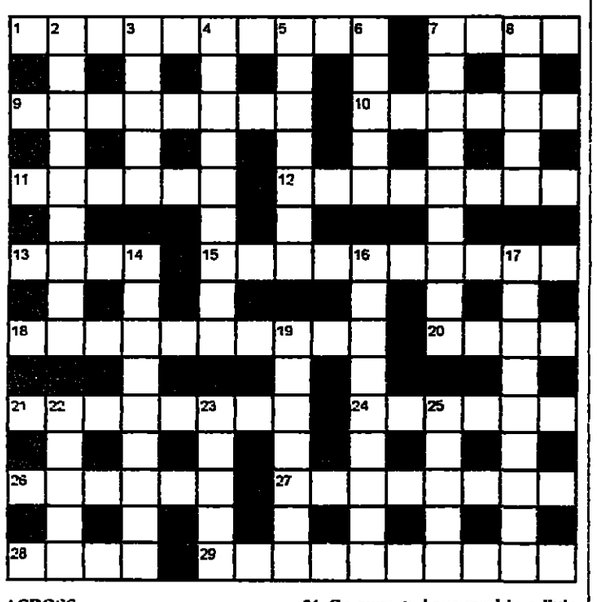

ACROSS

1 Little birds deserving large house (10).
7 Nearly all of e.g. potato stem is underground (4).
9 Like the characters in unusual pirate company? (8).
10 Daughter in town or city? City (6).
11 Pearl's home requiring new storey (6).
12 Aristocrat is besieged by opposing number (8).
13 Refusal by superpower to show gumption (4).
15 Too tough for soldiers to penetrate? (4-6).
18 Bit of a madam, girl returning after formal fuss (5,5).
20 Gallery in Central America? (4).
21 Nothing sinister. OK? (3,5).
24 Essence of the Navy seen in a boat (6).
26 Go away to have meal in a little while (4,2).
27 One short publication home editor envisaged (8).
28 Eastern country lacking a prominent feature (4).
29 Could it make person list? (10).

DOWN

2 Less ready to get round during this period? (5,4).
3 Card held by kid is a king (5).
4 Crucial point – there may be tears discharged (9).
5 Provide fresh protection for salvage (7).
6 Hell has to accommodate the lower classes (5).
7 Mistake is admitted by completely sober man of violence (9).
8 Grain husks on outside of one loaf (5).
14 Devil comes round to hurt one good-natured person (9).
16 Bar object not recommended for night cricket! (9).
17 Course is ten metres? That's absurd! (9).
19 More foolish row led by class-conscious union (7).
22 A sucker for medical treatment (5).
23 Arise from slumbers to study (3,2).
25 Give up post after losing second in command (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,496

Times Two Crossword, page 52

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Midlands	416 336	National Satellite Weather picture	416 397
East Anglia	416 337		
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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 4.47 am — Sun sets: 9.11 pm

Moon sets 8.05 pm — Moon rises 4.41 am

New moon tomorrow

London 9.11 pm to 4.46 am
Bristol 9.21 pm to 4.56 am
Edinburgh 9.51 pm to 4.31 am
Manchester 9.21 pm to 4.44 am
Penzance 9.26 pm to 5.15 am

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 41.2% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1996

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will be mainly dry with sunny periods, but showers may develop over southwest England and Wales. Eastern coasts of England will be cloudy at times.

Scotland and Northern Ireland should be dry and there will be sunny periods in most places. The far north of Scotland may be cloudy and cloud and drizzle may affect the Northern Isles later.

☐ **London, Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands, Channel Isles, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N England:** dry with sunny periods. Wind mainly easterly and generally light. Warm. Max 22C (72F)

☐ **SE England, E Anglia, E England, NE England:** dry with sunny spells, patchy cloud near coasts. Wind light, northeasterly. Cool near coast. Max 20C (68F).

☐ **SW England, S Wales, N Wales, N Ireland:** sunny spells, but possibly showers later. Wind mainly light, easterly. Warm. Max 21C (70F)

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll:** dry with sunny periods. Wind light and variable, mainly easterly. Warm. Max 21C (70F).

☐ **NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney:** dry with variable amounts of cloud. Wind light and variable. Max 16C (61F)

☐ **Shetland:** cloudy, perhaps with drizzle later. Wind moderate, northwesterly, turning southwesterly. Max 12C (54F)

☐ **Outlook:** dry start, rain later

☐ **Pollen:** low in N Scotland, S Scotland, N Ireland and London. Low to moderate in NW England, NE England, and East Anglia. Moderate in N Wales, SW England, and Central S England. Moderate to high in S Wales, Midlands and SE England

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright, c=cloud, d=drizzle, ds=dust storm, du=dull, f=fair, fg=fog, g=gale, h=hail, r=rain, sh=shower, sl=sleet, sn=snow, s=sun, t=thunder

	Sun hr	Rain in	C	Max F			Sun hr	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	11.3	-	15	59	s	Lerwick	10.5	0.01	11	52	s
Anglesey	14.8	-	20	68	s	Leuchars	12.4	-	15	59	s
Aspatria	10.4	-	19	66	s	Littlehampton	3.3	-	21	70	b
Aviemore	10.1	0.02	17	63	s	London	10.4	-	22	72	s
Belfast	9.2	-	18	64	s	Lowestoft	1.5	-	13	55	c
Birmingham	13.3	-	20	68	s	Manchester	15.1	-	21	70	s
Bognor R	4.6	0.07	21	70	s	Margate	9.7	-	16	61	b
Bournem'th	4.5	0.02	21	70	b	Morecambe	12.9	-	21	70	s
Bristol	3.6	-	21	70	s	Newcastle	9.1	0.01	14	57	s
Buxton	13.5	-	18	64	s	Newquay	6.4	0.44	17	63	b
Cardiff	3.6	0.01	20	68	sh	Norwich	3.7	-	14	57	c
Colwyn Bay	13.9	-	17	63	s	Oxford	11.0	-	21	70	b
Cromer	3.6	0.01	11	52	s	Penzance	2	0.34	17	63	s
Dunbar	6.3	0.01	13	55	s	Ross-o-wye	10.6	-	22	72	s
Eastbourne	5.2	-	18	64	s	Salcombe	0.1	0.92	17	63	b
Edinburgh	10.1	-	17	63	s	Saunton Snd	3.6	0.12	20	68	s
Eskdalemuir	5.1	0.01	16	61	b	Scarboro'	9.5	-	13	55	s
Exmouth	1.1	0.27	16	61	c	Shanklin	2.6	0.02	18	64	b
Falmouth	3.8	0.32	15	59	b	Shrewsbury	13.9	-	20	68	s
Fishguard	11.6	-	23	73	s	Skegness	3.9	-	11	52	c
Folkestone	9.7	-	19	66	s	Southend	13.8	-	19	66	s
Glasgow	11.9	-	19	66	s	Southport	14.1	-	21	70	s
Guernsey	10.7	0.01	18	66	s	Stornoway	13.4	-	12	54	s
Hastings	8.2	-	21	70	b	Swanage	3.4	0.01	17	63	b
Hayling I.	3.6	0.04	19	66	b	Tenby	3.5	0.01	17	63	c
Home Bay	10.3	-	16	61	s	Tiree	16.1	-	16	61	s
Isle of Man	15.5	-	19	66	s	Torquay	-	0.54	16	61	c
Jersey	13.0	-	21	70	s	Ventnor	3.9	0.01	17	63	b
Kinloss	8.0	-	15	59	s	Weston-s-mare	1.0	-	21	70	du
Leeds	15.3	-	19	66	s	Weymouth	4.8	0.03	18	64	s

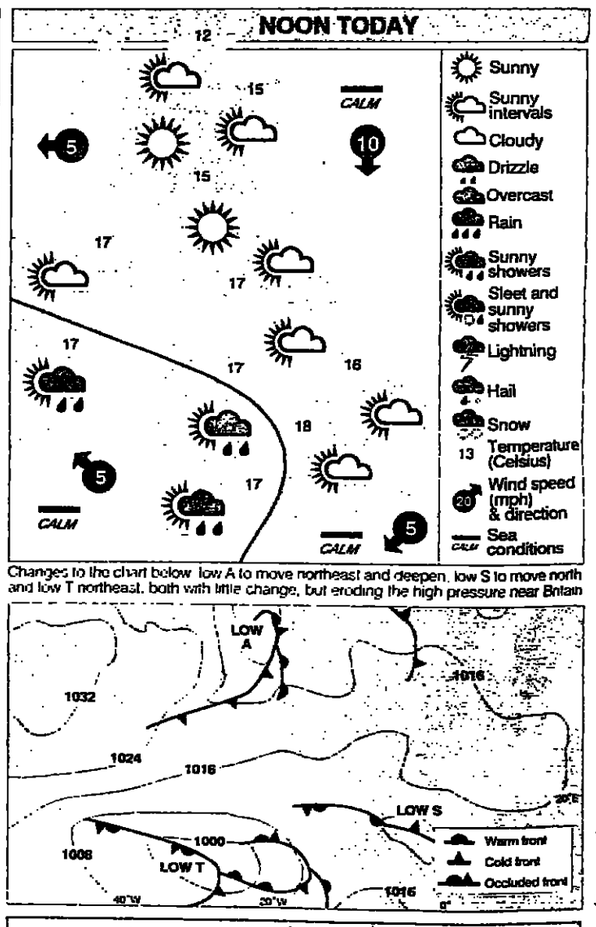
ABROAD

Ajaccio	19	66	f	C'phagn	21	70	s	Malaga	24	75	f
Akrotiri	24	75	s	Dublin	15	59	s	Malta	26	79	s
Alex'dria	27	81	s	Dubrovnik	17	63	c	Melb'rne	11	52	s
Algiers	28	82	s	Faro	21	70	s	Mexico C	*		
Amst'dm	20	68	s	Florence	20	68	f	Miami	30	86	s
Athens	22	72	f	Frankfurt	20	68	f	Milan	18	64	c
B Aires	*			Funchal	20	68	c	Montreal	21	70	s
Bahrain	35	95	s	Geneva	14	57	f	Moscow	17	63	c
Bangkok	34	93	s	Gibraltar	24	75	s	Munich	17	63	f
Barbados	29	84	f	Helsinki	19	66	s	N Delhi	31	88	f
Barcelona	22	72	f	Hong K	31	88	sh	N York	16	61	r
Beirut	23	73	s	Innsbruck	20	68	f	Nairobi	22	72	c
Belgrade	18	64	f	Istanbul	*			Naples	24	75	f
Berlin	19	66	s	Jeddah	34	93	s	Nice	19	66	r
Bermuda	26	79	s	Jo'burg	13	55	s	Oslo	22	72	s
Biarritz	18	64	f	Karachi	*			Paris	21	70	f
Borde a	21	70	s	L Angeles	22	72	s	Peking	23	73	f
Brussels	11	66	f	L Palmas	24	75	s	Perth	16	61	r
Budapest	16	61	s	Le Touquet	20	68	s	Prague	17	63	f
Cairo	30	86	s	Lisbon	19	66	f	Reykjavik	12	54	f
Cape Tn	18	64	s	Locarno	16	61	f	Rhodes	23	73	s
Ch'church	9	48	s	Luxembg	18	64	f	Rio de J	18	64	f
Chicago	13	55	f	Luxor	40	104	s	Riyadh	39	102	s
Cologne	18	64	f	Madrid	19	66	f	Rome	22	72	c
Corfu	25	77	f	Majorca	25	77	s	S Frisco	19	66	s

S Paulo	18	64	s				
Salzburg	18	64	f				
Santiago	16	61	s				
Seoul	21	70	s				
Sing'pore	33	91	c				
St'kholm	19	66	s				
Strasb'rg	20	68	s				
Sydney	18	64	s				
Tangier	22	72	f				
Tel Aviv	27	81	s				
Tenerife	25	77	f				
Tokyo	23	73	f				
Toronto	18	64	c				
Tunis	26	79	s				
Valencia	26	79	f				
Vanc'ver	16	61	c				
Venice	15	59	c				
Vienna	15	59	c				
Warsaw	14	57	c				
Wash'ton	17	63	r				
Wel'ngton	11	52	r				
Zurich	17	63	f				

Temperatures at midday last time on Monday. * = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to the chart below: low A to move northeast and deepen, low S to move north and low T northeast, both with little change, but eroding the high pressure near Britain

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	01.42	6.9	14.12	7.1	Leith	02.07	5.4	14.48	5.4
Aberdeen	01.15	4.1	13.31	4.1	Liverpool	11.18	9.2	23.43	9.3
Avonmouth	07.15	12.7	19.36	12.8	Lowestoft	09.36	2.4	21.45	2.4
Belfast	11.09	3.4	23.22	3.5	Margate	-	-	12.18	4.5
Cardiff	07.01	11.8	19.22	11.9	Milford Haven	06.13	6.7	18.36	6.8
Devonport	05.45	5.2	18.11	5.3	Newquay	05.06	6.7	17.28	6.8
Dover	11.09	6.4	23.26	6.6	Oban	05.57	3.7	18.12	3.7
Dublin (N Wall)	11.44	4.1	-	-	Penzance	04.35	5.3	17.00	5.4
Falmouth	05.16	5.0	17.42	5.1	Portland	06.27	1.8	18.54	2.0
Greenock	00.11	3.2	12.44	3.3	Portsmouth	11.24	4.5	23.45	4.6
Harwich	-	-	12.00	4.0	Shoreham	11.15	6.0	23.36	6.1
Holyhead	10.22	5.5	22.48	5.5	Southampton	10.50	4.4	23.13	4.6
Hull (Albert D)	06.52	8.4	18.35	8.5	Swansea	06.20	9.2	18.43	9.3
Ilfracombe	05.58	9.9	18.25	9.0	Tees	03.33	5.3	15.51	5.3
King's Lynn	06.29	6.1	18.40	6.5	Walton-on-N	11.54	4.1	-	-

All times BST. Heights in metres

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Heathrow, 23C (73F); lowest day max: Sella Ness, Shetland, 10C (50F); highest rainfall: Salcombe, Devon, 0.92in; highest sunshine: Tiree, Inner Hebrides, 16.1hr

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THE TIMES 2

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

WEDNESDAY JUNE 4 1997

Long-awaited restructuring focuses on Betacom electronics

Sugar takes £68m cash from Amstrad

By Jason Nissé

ALAN SUGAR, chairman of Tottenham Hotspur Football Club, is to take £68 million of cash out of Amstrad, the company he created, as part of its long-awaited restructuring.

The Amstrad name will vanish from the share registers as Mr Sugar splits the group into its component parts and gives investors a package of shares and cash that could be worth well over £400 million.

Betacom, the consumer electronics group in which Amstrad has a 69 per cent stake, will become the focus for Mr Sugar's business ambitions. He will become executive chairman of the company, which has taken on all the old Amstrad consumer electronics business, including the manufacture of set-top decoders for digital television, and may ultimately change its name to Amstrad. "It will be like the old Amstrad," Mr Sugar said yesterday. "We may change its name one day, but for now it is a bit confusing."

The shake-up has been likely since Psion, the hand-held computer maker, called off negotiations for a £250 million takeover of Amstrad last summer. The subsequent sale of Dancall, the mobile phone-maker, for £92 million, left Amstrad with £200 million of cash, which Mr Sugar said he would distribute to shareholders as soon as he found a tax-efficient way to do so.

In the restructuring, Amstrad shareholders will get £200 million of loan notes — which they can convert into cash worth 162p a share — plus a stake in Betacom, a share in Viglen, Amstrad's personal computer-maker expected to be valued at £140 million, and an interest in the ongoing litigation against two US computer hard disk manufacturers. The total value of the package is at least £400 million, of which Mr Sugar's share is about £140 million, £68 million of which is in cash.

Amstrad shares rose 13½p, to 277p, which compares with the 200p a share Psion said it was going to pay. "The Psion deal was going to bring me £80 million, this deal will bring me £140 million," Mr Sugar said.

Back to roots 31

A trust, chaired by Mr Sugar and including Peter Level, QC, chief executive of the FA Premiership, will be in charge of the legal actions arising from the failure of the PC2286 and PC2386 computers in the early 1990s. In the UK, Amstrad sued Seagate Technology and was recently awarded £57.6 million in damages. Costs and interest could take this beyond £100 million, though Seagate may appeal.

In the US, an action against Western Digital is due to start in October, and Amstrad's position has been helped by the California court ruling recently that Western had to change its lawyers. Any money coming from the legal action will be passed on to Amstrad shareholder, who will be given a participation letter.

Mr Sugar will have no involvement in Viglen, apart from that of a non-executive director and large shareholder. The business had a turnover of £106 million and operating profits of £10.6 million in the year to June 1996. The City expects the business to be valued at £140 million, or 115p a share for Amstrad investors.

Betacom shares reacted poorly to the prospect of Mr Sugar becoming full-time chairman, falling 4p to 59p. "This company will have all the old Amstrad businesses but without that terrible overhead weighing it down," Mr Sugar said.

The business will also have the expected contract from British Interactive Broadcasting, the BT, Midland Bank, BSkyB and Matsushita consortium involved in satellite digital TV, to make set-top boxes. BIB has said it will order up to a million boxes, though Masushita is expected to take the lion's share.

Mr Sugar founded Amstrad — which stands for Alan Michael Sugar Trading — in 1968 and floated it in 1980. Before it ran into difficulties with the PC2286 and PC2386 it was making profits of over £160 million a year.

Alan Sugar, who described the structural changes as a "return to the old Amstrad"

Troubled Racal sends signal to buyers

By Paul Durman

RACAL ELECTRONICS effectively invited offers for its businesses yesterday when it said it was ready to consider all options to deliver maximum returns to shareholders.

With Racal appointing Goldman Sachs, the US investment bank, to assess its struggling data products arm, and with plans for a similar review of its telecommunications business, the City believes the moves herald the long-rumoured break-up.

Racal also said it intended to make about 1,000 job cuts this year, about a third of them in the UK. Sir Ernest Harrison, chairman of Racal, denied he was putting up a "for sale" sign, but the company made it clear there are no sacred cows in its bid to revive its depressed share price, up 1½p to 235p yesterday.

Racal believes it will need a partner to make the most of its telecommunications business, which increased operating profits by two thirds, to £43.1 million, last year. This was the highlight of annual results that showed group pre-tax profits falling from £70.4 million to £40.4 million.

The group said the plan for its new defence electronics division, formed from the defence radar and avionics and the loss-making radio communications businesses, was to remain independent. However, it acknowledges the rapid consolidation taking place in the defence industry. It also said it is prepared to sell the businesses outside its three main divisions.

Racal intends to pay a final dividend of 3.9p a share on August 28 to maintain the total payout at 6p a share.

Commentry, page 29

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	4557.8	(-5.0)
Yield	3.60%	
FTSE All share	2174.41	(-4.27)
Nikkei	20563.16	(+111.31)
New York:		
Dow Jones	7335.76	(+46.36)*
S&P Composite	850.00	(+3.64)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5⅝%*	(5 11/16%)
Long Bond	96 29/32*	(96 17/32)
Yield	6.89%*	(6.90%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6⅞%	(6⅞%)
Liffe long gilt future (Jun)	113 7/16	(112 21/32)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6350*	(1.6367)
London:		
$	1.6361	(1.6329)
DM	2.8240	(2.8181)
FFr	9.5271	(9.5081)
SFr	2.3496	(2.3352)
Yen	190.23	(190.23)
£ Index	100.0	(99.8)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.7287*	(1.7295)
FFr	5.8255*	(5.8345)
SFr	1.4383*	(1.4325)
Yen	116.13*	(116.60)
$ Index	102.9	(103.1)

Tokyo close Yen 116.18

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Aug)	$19.15	($19.60)

GOLD

London close	$342.95	($344.05)

* denotes midday trading price

MEPC to hunt out takeover targets

By Carl Mortished

MEPC, the property group that rebuffed a merger proposal from Hammerson this year, has set its sights on corporate activity while giving warning that the property market is in danger of overheating.

The company has hired Robert Ware as corporate development director with a brief to seek out property deals in the corporate sector. James Tuckey, chief executive, said property prices were rising and pointed to the easy availability of credit and the re-emergence of gazumping. "People are making bids at prices we would not contemplate. The feeling our guys are getting is that it is getting hot out there."

MEPC's interim profits almost disappeared because of the £73 million cost of cancelling interest rate swaps. At the pre-tax level, profits fell from £67 million to £2.5 million. Excluding the exceptional cost, profits rose to £75.7 million, thanks in part to a £10.8 million gain from disposals.

Mr Tuckey said the board had authorised £470 million of new investment, including the Clarks deal, with most of it earmarked for acquisitions.

Net rental income was down £1 million in the first half at £192 million, mainly because of property sales, but rents in the core investments rose by £3 million.

The dividend for the full year will be maintained at 20p, with an interim payout of 5.25p, the same as last time.

Commentary, page 29
Tempus, page 30

Award for Times journalist

MARIANNE CURPHEY, pictured, deputy personal finance editor of *The Times*, has won the consumer pension and investment journalist of the year award. She was presented with the award yesterday at the House of Commons by John Hayes, chairman of the Occupational Pensions Regulatory Authority. The award was sponsored by Alexander Clay, the actuary and benefit consultant. *The Times* is currently personal finance newspaper of the year.

Coke takes fizz out of Cadbury

By Tunku Varadarajan and Alasdair Murray

COCA-COLA took some of the fizz out of Cadbury Schweppes yesterday when it confirmed that it had offered McDonald's franchisees an exclusive deal that would bar the sale of Dr Pepper and Seven-Up at any of the hamburger chain's US outlets.

News of the offer caused Cadbury Schweppes shares to fall 15p to close at 526½p with analysts estimating a successful McDonald's tie-up could cost Cadbury up to $50 million in lost turnover. Around 5 per cent of Dr Pepper's $1 billion sales are made through McDonald's US outlets.

Cadbury responded by saying it would examine all possible means to counter the threat. It is believed to be considering offering free Dr Pepper syrup to McDonald's franchisees.

The company is also understood to feel that Coca-Cola's move verges on illegality but it is not considering taking legal action at this stage.

Coca-Cola has made previous attempts to corner the McDonald's soft drink market, although the popularity of Dr Pepper especially in the South and West of America has so far prevented Cadbury losing much ground.

But the latest beverage battle comes at a critical time for Cadbury, which has reported poor sales of Seven-Up in recent months, and is suffering from strike action at its Birmingham chocolate plant in Britain.

In exchange for selling only Coca-Cola beverages, including its own rival spicy cherry brand Mr Pibb, Coca-Cola is offering up to 600 free gallons of soda syrup per restaurant as a reward.

The offer translates into almost 90,000 drinks per restaurant, which would ensure substantial cost savings for smaller restaurants.

Halifax investors suffer another fall

By Anne Ashworth and Caroline Merrell

THE Halifax's army of small shareholders suffered further disappointment yesterday. Shares in the former building society fell again, closing down 10p at 724½p, 50p below Monday's opening price.

Those customers who used the Halifax's free share-dealing service continued to fare better than many who used brokers. Shares sold through the Halifax service are being auctioned direct to institutional investors. Merrill Lynch, the securities house handling the auction, said that some 10 million shares were sold in a second auction, on Monday evening, for an average price of 732.8p. Those with the average holding of 310 shares received £2,271.68.

Jeremy Batstone, head of research at NatWest Stockbrokers, attributed the decline in the Halifax price to the nervous state of the banking sector. He predicted that the price would be supported by index-tracking funds (obliged to have a stake in all shares in the FT-SE 100) in the run up to Halifax's inclusion in the index on June 23. He said: "Many funds are still underweight in Halifax but are keeping their powder dry."

Those Halifax customers who chose to buy additional shares on Monday are nursing a loss on their investment. A spokesman for Sharelink, the largest execution-only share-dealing service, which did £45 million worth of business in Halifax shares on Monday, said: "Many investors chose to buy when the market opened and are now feeling aggrieved."

Stock Market 30

Shares of Alliance & Leicester, another former building society that floated on the stock market, fell 5p to 596½p yesterday. They traded at a high of 638p after flotation.

Chiefs sell before warning at Oasis

By Sarah Cunningham

OASIS, the high street fashion retailer, issued a profit warning yesterday, just weeks after directors and members of the family who control the company sold more than £5.5 million worth of shares.

The company said first-half profits would be "materially lower" than last year. The shares plunged 21 per cent.

Family members to sell included Michael Bennett, chairman, his son John Bennett, a director, and Maurice Bennett, vice-chairman. Lynne Burstall, Peter Evans and David Sarson, all directors, also sold shares in April at between 400p and 405p. Vivian Scott, managing director, sold in late April and also on May 9, when he unloaded 100,000 shares at 385p.

The shares closed at 267½p yesterday after falling 73p.

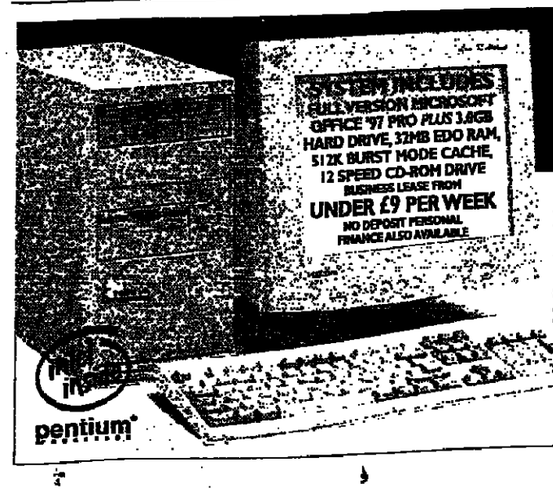
The chairman insisted that the problems that will lead to the profit fall only became evident in the past few weeks.

The company told its annual meeting that sales growth since the year end "has been below our fairly demanding expectations". Like-for-like sales rose 4 per cent in the first 18 weeks of this year compared with 12.5 per cent last year.

Mark Josefson, retail analyst at Panmure Gordon, lowered his forecast for the current year to £16.5 million from £18 million.

Profits will also be hit by a higher level of discounted sales than planned. Michael Bennett said buyers had ordered too wide a range of clothing and the collection had become "bitty". Orders have been changed to refocus the collection and he said he was confident about prospects.

The issue of a legal claim by Graham and Edwina Brown, the founders of the original stores to bear the Oasis name, against directors of the company was raised by a shareholder at the meeting. Rowley Agar, a non-executive director, said he was confident that the Browns' case would fail.



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Costs targeted to counter future impact of pricing curbs

Warning by Grid as profits rise

By Christine Buckley
Industrial Correspondent

THE NATIONAL GRID, the country's electricity transmission network operator, yesterday tempered a 12 per cent rise in pre-tax profits with a warning of tougher times over future results because of the latest pricing review.

But the company pledged to combat the impact of the price curbs, which came into force in April, with a tough cost-cutting programme.

David Jones, chief executive, said that no more job losses were planned on top of the 750 outlined six months ago but that up to 70 middle managers would be affected by cutting out two layers of management. So far 200 company jobs have gone with the remainder to come in the next five years. The Grid is targeting a double-digit reduction in controllable costs in its transmission operation this year, and plans a cut of 6 per cent a year for the next four years.

Along with other utilities in the windfall tax firing line, the Grid is lobbying to keep its bill as low as possible. Mr Jones said that it has emphasised to Treasury officials that regional electricity companies, which used to own the business prior to its flotation in late 1995, received most of the benefits. It has also highlighted the £50 per customer rebate paid after the company moved onto the stock market, which took £1 billion off its balance sheet.

The Grid is keeping silent on whether it would mount a legal challenge to the tax until it knows the form and amount of the levy. It has made a written submission to the Treasury but has no plans to meet officials. They are holding talks with other companies ahead of the Budget when Gordon Brown will announce details of the tax.

Energis, the Grid's telecoms division, improved its performance in the year to March 31 and the company said it was no longer looking to involve key partners in the operation but rather to forge alliances. Sales at the subsidiary jumped 127 per cent and the operating loss was cut by 26 per cent, to £54.2 million.

The company said it was pressing on with international expansion in spite of problems in Pakistan where the Government has refused permission for it to link independent power stations into the transmission network. It is increasing its stake in Argentina's network in a move that will make it the registered operator. The Grid is also bidding for projects in Australia, India and Zambia.

Overall, pre-tax profits rose 12.2 per cent from pro forma figures to £591.4 million. Strong cash generation and the refund of surplus advance corporation tax reduced the company's gearing from 114 per cent to 61 per cent. The final dividend, due October 1, was set at 6.68p, making a total for the year of 11.13p, up by 8.4 per cent.

US provides warning on trade union law changes

By Oliver August

THE Government has been told that the US system for resolving industrial disputes, which was flagged as a blueprint for new UK union legislation during the election campaign, suffers from serious deficiencies.

William Gould, who runs the system as chairman of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), said: "Britain should avoid the pitfalls of litigation that we have encountered."

Mr Gould, a Stanford University law professor appointed by President Clinton in 1993, held talks with Ian McCartney, the Trade Minister, and officials at the Confederation of British Industry and the Trade Union Congress this week.

Under the American system, unions and employers consistently end up in court over decisions made by the NLRB. In the UK, the courts could become even more important in industrial disputes because of the way British unions are structured, according to Mr Gould.

He said: "You could have far more litigation in Britain than we have had. The UK has a much less tidy structure of unions." Many unions cover different occupations and compete within occupations.

Herein lies potential for conflict. The NLRB's main job is to decide which unions should be recognised by employers. Workers at individual factories can petition the NLRB to gain union recognition.

If more than 30 per cent of workers are found to be interested in collective bargaining, the NLRB will hold an official ballot at the factory. Mr Gould said: "Problems can arise here. Employers will intimidate employees and hold up the proceedings." In such cases the NLRB will take the employer to court.

One solution to the problem of different unions competing for union recognition at individual factories would be to form a new central organisation, according to Mr Gould. He said: "This could be some sort of central mechanism involving the TUC.

"Our system is generally a good one. But I would hope that the UK will go into this aware of the problems that have arisen in the US."

KPMG tax fears for business

KPMG, the accountancy firm, believes the Government will use the Budget to make big changes in corporate taxation, including the abolition of tax relief on dividend payments (Alasdair Murray writes).

Ian Barlow, head of the tax division, yesterday said that Labour is most likely to target the "imputation" system, which gives shareholders a tax credit on dividend payments.

KPMG says the Chancellor could raise up to £10 billion through increases in personal taxation without breaking manifesto commitments. But the accountancy firm reckons it is unlikely the Government wanted to break the "spirit" of its tax promises. Minor changes could include the abolition of tax relief on private medical insurance and an increase in the inheritance tax rate from 40 per cent.

DEB JENSON

John Houliston with Dairy Crest's new range of football-theme cartoons

Net gains at Dairy Crest

STRONG sales of cheese and dairy spreads boosted profits at Dairy Crest last year, offsetting continued pressure on liquid milk prices and a fall in sales of dairy ingredients to food manufacturers and of milk delivered to the doorstep (Sarah Cunningham writes). Pre-tax profit for the company, where John Houliston is chief executive and which floated last August and is still 60 per cent owned by milk producers, was £35.5 million in the 12 months to March 31. This was £4 million higher than the previous year. Earnings per share were 21.7p compared with 19.1p. The final dividend of 6.64p (6.07p) gives a full-year dividend of 9.9p (9.1p).

Any benefits to Dairy Crest from a cut in milk prices were wiped out when other dairy companies immediately passed on the whole of the cut to retailers. Dairy Crest said it was forced to follow suit.

UKAV to use new purchase for bid

By Jason Nissé

UK ACTIVE VALUE, the aggressive investment fund run by Julian Treger and Brian Myerson, has taken control of a small quoted timber company, John Mansfield, which it aims to use to make a takeover bid worth as much as £200 million.

The fund is paying £5 million for a 65.4 per cent stake in Mansfield. UKAV is paying 3p a share for the stake. Mansfield shares rose from 5½p to 8p, giving UKAV an immediate profit of £8.3 million.

Mansfield will be used alongside UKAV's normal investment strategy, which often involves taking strategic stakes in underperforming companies and pressing for a management shake-up. Among the quoted companies that have faced the UKAV treatment are Scholl, Signet, Kenwood and Greycoat.

Mr Treger said: "Having a quoted company gives us an extra tool for implementing our strategy for adding value in investments. A lot of institutions have said 'if you think this company needs a change, why don't you bid for it'. Well now we can if we want."

UKAV is looking at a couple of companies that Mansfield might take over. It has not decided whether it will buy a public or private group, or whether it will make an agreed or hostile bid. "It depends on what opportunities arise," said Mr Treger.

UKAV has raised more than $200 million in its UKAV Continuation Fund. It was hoping to raise a new fund, but this was put on hold until the Signet restructuring was completed. UKAV has made a profit of more than 100 per cent on its Signet investment.

Mr Treger, Mr Myerson and David Couley, their colleague, will join the board of Mansfield, with four of Mansfield's directors stepping down, though three of them will stay on to run the timber business.

Commentary, page 29

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Coal Products buys rival distributor

COAL PRODUCTS, the biggest manufacturer of smokeless fuel and the second largest solid fuel distributor, has completed the purchase of British Fuels, the largest solid fuel distributor, in a £32 million deal. It is thought that the takeover could lead to a flotation or trade sale within a year. Coal Products and British Fuels were created by management buyouts when the British Coal Corporation was privatised two years ago.

The purchase of British Fuels, which distributes coal, oil and gas to domestic, industrial and agricultural buyers, by Coal Products creates a company with a turnover of £650 million. David Foster, chief executive of the enlarged group, said: "The merger will provide a platform for the continuing development and expansion of a dynamic energy business." Speculation has been triggered that a flotation or trade sale could quickly follow the takeover as the venture capital backers will be keen to see a return on their investment.

Brent Spar bids received

SHELL UK said it has selected six contractors who have detailed nine bids to dispose of Brent Spar, the giant oil, storage and loading buoy. "Now we've received the nine detailed bids, we can start the long process of comparing them with each other and the benchmark option of deep sea disposal," Eric Faulds, Shell's decommissioning manager, said. Mr Faulds said the group would not announce contactors' cost estimates until Det Norske Veritas, the international certification, classification and advisory body, had compared bids.

Tesco plans call centre

TESCO, the supermarket group, has announced plans to create 300 jobs at a new 24-hour call centre. The facility, in Glasgow, will provide support for Tesco Personal Finance, the company's joint venture with the Royal Bank of Scotland. The call centre will be built in George Square and will be operational by July. Recruitment of the 300 staff is already under way. Brian Wilson, the Scottish Office Industry Minister, said he was delighted at the company's decision.

TLG lands £19m orders

TLG HAS won airfield lighting orders worth a total of £19 million in the Far East and Egypt. The orders include a £16.1 million contract from the Hong Kong airport authority for the supply, installation and commissioning of the airfield lighting system for the second runway at Hong Kong's new airport at Chek Lap Kok. The other two contracts involve a £2 million order for the second runway at Cairo airport and a £600,000 contract for lighting at three airports in Thailand.

R-R wins turbine orders

ROLLS-ROYCE, the UK aerospace and engineering company, said its Cooper Rolls joint venture with America's Cooper Cameron Corp has won orders for gas turbines worth more than $150 million. Rolls-Royce said the 15 Coberra turbine packages would be installed in gas transmission and offshore gas installations in America, Canada, Slovakia and the North Sea. The Northern Border Pipeline Company ordered 11 of the units for delivery this autumn.

Toy Options advances

TOY OPTIONS raised pre-tax profits 21 per cent to £2.25 million in the six months to February 28 on sales up 23 per cent to £21 million. Earnings per share rose 15 per cent to 7.36p, with the half-year dividend rising 20 per cent to 1.2p. Richard King, chairman, said: "The board is confident that the group's four trading companies provide the group with a solid base from which further growth, both in the domestic and international market, will be achieved for the foreseeable future."

French merger nearer

THE European Commission is today expected to approve the merger of Cie. de Suez and Lyonnaise des Eaux-Dumez, forming one of France's largest industrial companies. The new company, called Suez-Lyonnais, has presented an acceptable solution to the only potential competition problem in the merger, involving waste management services in Belgium, by agreeing to sell its 49 per cent interest in PAGE, a waste management company.

Sharples makes £6.7m

CHRISTOPHER SHARPLES, former head of the Securities and Futures Authority, yesterday made a profit of about £1.3 million and a paper gain of a further £5.4 million, after the successful flotation of a software company he co-founded. Royal Blue, supplier of City dealing software and general IT support, announced the placing of more than 6.8 million shares, mainly with institutions, at a price of 170p, valuing the whole company at about £46.7 million. Dealing should start on June 9.

Eurocopy's flat returns

EUROCOPY, the photocopier producer, blamed its failure to close takeover deals for flat profits at the halfway stage. The company, which made £2.44 million (£2.37 million) before tax in the six months to March 31, said it had been on the point of making several bolt-on acquisitions but had been forced to pull out at the due diligence stage each time. Its shares eased 2½p to 64½p. Earnings were 3.27p (3.21p) a share and an interim dividend of 0.93p (0.88p) is due on September 1.

Verdict on windfalls

THE market for furniture and carpets, worth about £9 billion last year, will grow faster than total retail sales this year and next, driven by windfall gains from building society flotations and the buoyancy of the housing market, according to a report today by Verdict, the retail consultants. It says the average windfall of £1,500 to £2,000 "equates nearly to the cost of a new three-piece suite or a carpet" but adds that consumer caution will ensure there is no repeat 1980s-style boom.

RECOMMENDED CASH OFFER
on behalf of
ANGLIAN WATER Plc
to acquire the whole of the issued share capital of
HARTLEPOOL WATER PLC

J. Henry Schroder & Co. Limited ("Schroders") announces on behalf of Anglian Water Plc ("Anglian Water") that, by means of a formal Offer Document dated and despatched on 4 June 1997 (the "Offer Document") Schroders is making a recommended offer (the "Offer") on behalf of Anglian Water to acquire all the existing unconditionally allotted or issued fully paid ordinary shares of 10p each in Hartlepool Water PLC ("Hartlepool Water") ("Shares") not already owned by Anglian Water and any further fully paid Hartlepool Water Shares unconditionally allotted or issued before the date on which the Offer closes (or such earlier date as Anglian Water may, subject to the provisions of the City Code on Takeovers and Mergers ("City Code"), decide).

A holder of Hartlepool Water Shares who accepts the Offer will receive 266p in cash for each Hartlepool Water Share held. Hartlepool Water Shareholders on the register on 6 June 1997 will also be entitled to receive Hartlepool Water's proposed final dividend of 5.0p (net) per Hartlepool Water Share in respect of the year ended 31 March 1997.

Instead of some or all of the cash consideration which would otherwise be receivable under the Offer, accepting Hartlepool Water Shareholders (other than certain overseas shareholders) will be entitled to elect to receive floating rate unsecured loan notes of Anglian Water ("Loan Notes") on the basis of £1 nominal of Loan Notes for every £1 of cash consideration under the Offer ("Loan Note Alternative").

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The Offer, which is made by means of the Offer Document and this advertisement, is capable of acceptance from and after 4 June 1997 in accordance with the terms and conditions set out or referred to in the Offer Document. The Offer is, by means of this advertisement, extended to all persons to whom the Offer Document may not be despatched who hold, or who are entitled to have unconditionally allotted or issued to them, Hartlepool Water Shares. Such persons are informed that copies of the Offer Document and Forms of Acceptance will be available for collection from Schroders at 120 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6DS.

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The Directors of Anglian Water accept responsibility for the information contained in this advertisement and to the best of their knowledge and belief (having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case), the information contained in this advertisement is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information.

SFIM, electronic London, SHS, for Offer.

4 June 1997

Enron loses court battle over North Sea contracts

By Christine Buckley, Industrial Correspondent

ENRON was yesterday dealt another blow over North Sea gas contracts after a court said it must pay a collection of companies fees, interest and costs. It could be forced to pay £100 million over the transportation of gas to Teesside.

The American power company that on Monday agreed to pay £275 million to BG, Phillips Petroleum and Agip over a high-priced contract for gas, said it may appeal. Kenneth Lay, chairman of Enron, said: "Enron always stands behind its contractual obligations, but we will also protect the interests of our shareholders and customers."

The London Commercial Court ruled against Enron and in favour of the owners of the Central Area Transmission System (CATS), one of the largest North Sea gas transportation and processing networks. The owners include Amoco, which operates the system, BG, Amerada Hess and Phillips. According to the judge the change in the price of gas was pivotal to the dispute between CATS and Teesside Gas Transportation Ltd, which is owned by Enron, over the 15-year capacity reservation and transportation agreement between them.

Mr Justice Langley said: "I have little doubt that but for the fall in gas prices all of the matters of which the defendants complain could and would have been readily sorted out in the spirit of co-operation which existed before then."

Clive Fowler, managing director of Amoco UK Exploration Company, said: "Amoco and the other CATS owners are delighted . . . it is a vindication of our decision to initiate legal action."

Diamonds, gold and coal put shine on mining firm's year

Anglo American earnings surge

Ogilvie Thompson: "pleased"

By Jon Ashworth

ANGLO AMERICAN, the South African mining company, turned in a sharp rise in earnings last year on the back of strong performances in diamonds, gold and coal.

Anglo's black empowerment drive brought in further windfalls, underpinned by the disposal of a 35 per cent stake in Johannies Industrial Corporation to the National Empowerment Consortium. This and other disposals brought in R2.1 billion (£258 million) compared with R485 million (£66 million) the previous year.

Net earnings increased from R4.4 billion (£602 million) to R7.1 billion (£972 million) in the year to end-March. A final dividend of 540 cents per share makes 700 cents for the year, up by 23 per cent. Total net earnings for the year were 3,037 cents per share (1,885 cents).

Julian Ogilvie Thompson, chairman of Anglo, described 1996 as "a pleasing year with significantly improved headline earnings, further expansion of our operations and, more recently, the completion of major black economic empowerment initiatives."

Associate companies, including De Beers and Minorco, lifted contributions to net income by 25 per cent, on the back of much-improved operating results from diamonds, gold and mining finance interests. Trading income was 36 per cent higher, reflecting the buoyant market conditions enjoyed by Anglo American Coal Corporation.

Dividend income from general investments was 20 per cent higher on the back of increased distributions from diamond trading, and the first dividends from Anglo's 27.5 per cent stake in Lonrho.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.25	2.09
Austria Sch	20.79	19.24
Belgium Fr	61.20	56.57
Canada $	2.364	2.186
Cyprus Cyp£	0.880	0.813
Denmark Kr	11.29	10.47
Finland Mkk	8.98	8.28
France Fr	9.94	9.22
Germany Dm	2.98	2.75
Greece Dr	475	437
Hong Kong $	13.40	12.27
Iceland	127	107
Ireland Pt	1.15	1.07
Israel Shk	5.90	5.25
Italy Lira	2940	2710
Japan Yen	204.20	187.70
Malta	0.662	0.608
Netherlds Gld	3.356	3.079
New Zealand $	2.53	2.30
Norway Kr	12.22	11.34
Portugal Esc	297.00	276.00
S Africa Rd	8.00	7.08
Spain Pta	249.00	231.50
Sweden Kr	13.44	12.41
Switzerland Fr	2.49	2.29
Turkey Lira	242692	224145
USA $	1.734	1.600

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday

Hot property will burn fingers

COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

It was very public spirited of James Tuckey, the MEPC chief executive, to issue a warning yesterday that the property market is in danger of overheating. Sadly, there seems little likelihood of his words being heeded by those whose fingers, and arms, are most likely to be burned. With an awful inevitability, financiers are rushing to put their money into commercial property just as the top of the market approaches.

The Bank of England has a stab at monitoring property lending. It has good reason to do so, since the Bank's lifeboat has plenty of experience of being summoned to the rescue of financiers struggling to keep afloat among a sea of empty office blocks. But there are indications that the Bank's figures may seriously under-estimate the scale of the cash currently flowing into new developments. In March, the Bank was taking comfort from the fact that property lending stood at £30 billion and was falling. Savills, a firm of property consultants which has little reason for scare-mongering, puts the figure at a minimum of £47 billion, possibly £57 billion, and certainly growing.

The difference is down to definition. Savills based its figures on an analysis of the top 80 lenders. Of these, 23 do not contribute to the Bank's statistics. Savills' figures are swelled by the inclusion, for instance, of lending by banks that have only representative offices in the UK and by the building societies which, in their search for excitement, are increasingly venturing into the dangerous world of commercial property.

In the wine bars of the West End, where sharp-suited property types gather, the sport is in trying to predict which of these generous lenders will be left with some expensive empty office space when shortage of supply turns to shortage of demand, as it most surely will.

After a few years of relative restraint, in which funding depended on the presence of a tenant, the plausible gentlemen who enjoy creating office blocks are succeeding in persuading financiers to back them in putting up speculative developments.

The last ones to start coming out of the ground will almost certainly be completed as the business cycle brings demand for office space shuddering to a halt. Rents that currently can be projected forward to show a satisfying return will prove to have been little more than illusory.

Those who doubt it should ask the Reichman brothers for a quick run through the figures that convinced them Canary Wharf was a great idea. And if further proof were needed that the property market is getting ahead of itself, take a look at Embankment Place, the palace by Charing Cross station which Greycoat would dearly love to be rid of. Rumour has it that a buyer has appeared and is talking serious money for a building which will have no hope of showing rental growth for many years. The Sultan of Brunei is the name being mentioned.

The importance of Sir Ernest

Racal Electronics' advisers dressed it up with jargon, but it is hard to see any purpose in yesterday's strategy statement other than to hasten the break-up of the group. It is meaningless to talk about focusing on three main businesses while banging on about the need to "review all options" in order to maximise value for shareholders. Cutting through the City speak, Racal's businesses are up for sale.

As the 71-year-old Sir Ernest Harrison made clear yesterday, Racal's guiding light for so many years is finally ready to retire, though he intends "to see the job through". The implied finality suggests he is aiming for something more than a modest uplift in the share price.

Only six weeks ago, David Elsbury, Racal's chief executive, dismissed the idea of the long-rumoured break-up. Now Goldman Sachs is looking at the data products business, and Racal is seeking advisers to look for deals for its telecommunications business. Perhaps Sir Ernest has just grown tired of explaining away the company's regular disappointments.

Racal's problem is that in telecoms, data communications products and defence electronics, it is a small player in fast-changing international industries. In telecoms, it will need a partner to provide the capital to take full advantage of the opportunities. The defence industry is consolidating rapidly. Racal claims to have restored the health and reputation of its data products arm, but has yet to produce the results to prove it and will continue to face much stronger American competition.

It is just about believable that Racal could link up with (say) AT&T in telecoms and with GEC or ITT in defence, and sell the data products business. But Racal would become little more than an investment holding company, lacking the rationale for an independent existence.

With its numerous businesses, dismembering Racal may prove trickier than it looks, and it will be difficult for Sir Ernest to repeat his spectacular successes with Vodafone and Chubb Security. However, don't bet against him — he reckons to have created about £10 billion of wealth for shareholders over the last 30 years.

At 235p, there is near-unanimity that Racal's shares are substantially undervalued. The telecoms business is growing well and a hunch says Racal's latest generation of data products will finally deliver decent results. The old man may still have one final blaze of glory.

Making a meal of the minimum wage

Professor George Bain will have won himself few friends in Government with his admission that a minimum wage will cost jobs, but he has certainly reassured industrialists that he will be taking a realistic approach to his task.

Peter Jarvis, the rumoured candidate for the role of chairman of the Low Pay Commission, did discuss the job with the Government, but would have had severe difficulties in being accepted by the trades unions.

Now the haggling will start. Most major businesses see little problem in coping with a minimum wage set at £3.50 or below, although employers organisations will start with a much lower suggestion and the unions will aim high. Yet the headline figure is just the starting point. Companies will need to know just what benefits can be taken into the equation. In the catering industry, never the most generous of employers, what value should be attached to the perk of meals on the job and a uniform? A small point but one that could have quite an impact on profits.

What flexibility will there be for the employment of trainees and holiday relief workers? The Government is wedded to its Welfare to Work scheme, but many youngsters are happy to gain work experience without being well remunerated if their CVs are going to show the benefit.

Those who run businesses must now accept the principle of a minimum wage and prepare to work with it, but they need to persuade Professor Bain that the difficulties could lie in the details.

Derring-duo

HOW brave of Julian Treger and Brian Myerson, the powers behind UK Active Value. The scourges of Signet, Greycoat, Kenwood et al, have taken control of timber merchant John Mansfield with the intention of turning it into a corporate deal doer. They had better deliver some impressive returns — otherwise someone might buy a 10 per cent stake, requisition an extraordinary meeting, and have the South Africans ousted from the board.

Vodafone seeks to build presence in overseas markets

By Eric Reguly

VODAFONE, the largest mobile-phone company, yesterday said it would seek to convert its minority overseas investments into control positions as the international portfolio moves into profit.

The overseas operations reported their first operating profit, of £14.4 million, in the year to March 31, against a loss of £27 million a year earlier and almost £46 million in 1994-95. The portfolio includes mobile-phone companies in France, Greece, South Africa, The Netherlands, Germany, Sweden and Hong Kong.

Vodafone said: "It is our objective to increase the level of our shareholdings in non-UK businesses, changing their status from investment to associate and then to subsidiary." The company recently took control of Panafon, the Greek mobile-phone company, and will boost its minority stake in SFR of France before the end of the year.

Customer growth in the overseas businesses exceeded growth in the core UK market for the first time. Vodafone's share of the overall market has slipped from 42.7 per cent two years ago to 40 per cent as competition has intensified, but it remains the market leader.

Under Chris Gent, chief executive, the company has pursued a policy of not chasing low-margin, low-use customers. It attributes its slower growth rate to this.

Vodafone ended the year with 2.87 million customers, up 415,000. In the previous year, it recruited 633,000 net new customers. The downward trend will continue, with 350,000 to 400,000 net new customers expected in the current year.

Revenue per subscriber is also on the wane in the UK, with an average of £427 in the year, down from £481 previously. The decline was expected and is the result of the growth in the lower-spending consumer market. Vodafone's traditional strength is among business customers, who use mobile phones more often.

The higher number of UK customers and the first contribution from the overseas operations were behind the 13 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, to £539 million, on turnover of £1.75 billion, up 25 per cent. Earnings per share were 11.89p against 10.15p. Profits were in line with City forecasts.

A final dividend of 2.45p is to be paid on August 15, making a total of 4.81p, up 20 per cent. The shares closed unchanged at 271½p.

Tempus, page 30

SIMON WALKER

Chris Gent has forsaken the pursuit of low-margin, low-volume business

Union membership falls

TRADE union membership has fallen 20 per cent since 1989, data out today shows (Alasdair Murray writes).

About 7.2 million people belonged to a union last year, two million fewer than in 1989. The proportion of all employees in unions fell from 39 per cent in 1989 to 31 per cent last year. The latest Labour Market Trends survey found that union membership has fallen 3 per cent a year on average during this period. The rate of decline slowed to just 1 per cent last year.

Postal and rail strikes helped to lose 1.3 million working days to labour disputes last year, the highest figure since 1990.

Fossil warning, page 31

De La Rue hit by integration of Harrison

By Oliver August

DE LA RUE, the security printer, yesterday reported a sharp and unexpected fall in pre-tax profits from £148 million to £106 million in the year to March 31. Its shares tumbled from 485p to 421½p.

The drop in profits was mainly because of exceptional charges of £15 million relating to the integration of Harrison & Sons, the printer that supplies the Royal Mail with most of its stamps. De La Rue bought debt-laden Harrison from Lonrho in February. Last month De La Rue announced that 400 jobs were to go at the banknote and security documents division.

Underlying pre-tax profits dropped to £120 million, about £7 million lower than analysts had predicted. In the main cash systems division the profit fall was caused by a change in the product mix during the year. Sales slipped 2.7 per cent to £267.8 million from £275.3 million.

The company declared it will increasingly divert profits from its banking machine operations to the development of smart cards and other cashless technology.

Lord Limerick, chairman, said the company was looking forward to growth in the use of smart cards in the medium to long term. He said: "We do not expect such cashless systems to have a significant effect on the steady growth of the world market for the foreseeable future, although the use of personal cheques will decine."

De La Rue said its 22.5 per cent stake in Camelot, the National Lottery operator, added £16 million to profits. Earnings per share fell to 35p (50.5p) and the full-year dividend rose to 24p (23.75p). An unchanged final of 16.5p will be paid on August 14.

Tempus, page 30

Respite for names on minimum asset level

By Adam Jones

LLOYD'S of London has slowed changes to its capital base after traditional names argued that they were being forced out of the market.

Lloyd's said yesterday that it will raise the minimum assets required by most members from £250,000 to £350,000 by 2002, three years later than the original deadline.

Sir David Berriman, chairman of the Association on Lloyd's Members (ALM), welcomed the extension: "It should enable most names to continue to underwrite." Those members who cannot meet the new requirement will be allowed to underwrite on a scaled-down basis.

The revised plan, aimed at improving Lloyd's underlying security, allows names to continue using bank guarantees or letters of credit secured on their homes, but only if they predate December 31, 1994. The ALM said that it "still has some reservations" about this clause.

Increases in the amount of funds lodged at Lloyd's will be phased in over three rather than the proposed two years. However, individual members will eventually have to deposit 40 per cent of their premium limit, rather than the anticipated 37.5 per cent.

The overall minimum capital requirement, including assets retained by the member, will be raised to 50 per cent as expected. Individual members will now have to comply by 2000 rather than 1999.

NEWBURY Building Society

Head Office: 17 Bartholomew Street, Newbury RG14 5LY Telephone: 01635 43676

Revised Interest Rates

The new rates of interest effective from 4 June 1997 on Newbury investment accounts are set out below:

Current Accounts		Gross/annum	Net/annum
Treasure Plus	£1,000-£9,999	410	328
	£10,000-£24,999	505	404
	£25,000-£49,999	555	444
	£50,000 and OVER	605	484
Instant Premium	£500-£4,999	360	288
	£5,000-£9,999	390	312
	£10,000-£24,999	430	344
	£25,000 and OVER	465	372
Newbury Monthly Income	£250 to £9,999	445 (CAR)* 4.54	356 (CAR)* 3.62
	£10,000-£19,999	494 (CAR)* 5.05	395 (CAR)* 4.33
		(CAR)* 5.55	(CAR)* 4.41
TESSA 95 & Follow-Up TESSA		670	Tax Exempt**
Young Saver	£1-£499	320	256
	£500-£4,999	360	288
	£5,000-£9,999	390	312
	£10,000-£24,999	430	344
	£25,000 and OVER	465	372
Senior Saver	£500 and OVER	430 (CAR)* 4.39	344 (CAR)* 3.49
Paid up shares		160	128
Closed Accounts			
Tower Account		345	276
Tower Monthly Income		340	272
Gross Interest	To £4,999	270	-
	£5,000 and OVER	350	-
TESSA (+)		670	Tax Exempt**

The above rates are variable. # Without UK Income Tax deducted. *Compound Annual Rate - assuming that monthly interest payments are left in the account. **Free of UK Income Tax. ## The net rate is illustrative assuming Income Tax at the current rate of 20%. Interest is paid at the net rate after deduction of the appropriate rate of Income Tax (which may be reclaimed by non-taxpayers) or gross, subject to the required registration. Newbury Building Society only accepts new investment applications from within its branch operational area.

Scottish builder lifted by early profits target

By Fraser Nelson

SHARES in Morrison Construction jumped to a high yesterday after the Scottish building group turned in year-end profits of £16.2 million — a target it was not expected to reach until 1998.

The shares jumped 12½p to 292½p as the company, which last year returned profits of £11.4 million, said that its £5 million-a-year team of contract hunters had already won orders to fill 60 per cent of this year's budget.

Fraser and Gordon Morrison, whose father founded the company 50 years ago, intend to sell a fifth of their shareholding, currently worth £21.4 million. The brothers stand to make more than £6.48 million each from the shares, which have more than doubled in value since joining the market at 115p each less than three years ago. They will not disclose how much they originally paid for the stake under secrecy agreements struck with Charter.

A final dividend of 3.5p brings the total to 5.14p (4.5p) and is due on August 1.

Albert Fisher buys chilled food supplier for £27m

By Paul Durman

ALBERT FISHER, the food company, is paying £26.9 million to acquire Howard Long International, the main UK supplier of shredded lettuce to the McDonalds burger chain.

HLI also supplies bags of salad to several supermarket chains. The business made a pre-tax profit of £1.9 million last year, and in late December had net assets of £3 million.

HLI is located in Methwold, Norfolk and is owned by Howard Long, an American businessman who has a long-standing relationship with McDonalds through his US interests. Albert Fisher already supplies sauces and dips to the fast-food chain.

Neil England, Albert Fisher's chief executive, said chilled prepared salads was a key area for the group. It already has a strong position in the US and is keen to strengthen its European business. HLI would complement Fisher Chilled Foods' coleslaw business in York and the new prepared fruit factory in Wisbech, Cambridgeshire.

Albert Fisher also announced a big profit on the $5 million it invested in San Miguel, the Argentine lemon producer, in July 1995.

The company has received $7 million for about 30 per cent of its stake as part of San Miguel's listing on the Buenos Aires stock exchange. Its remaining holding is worth about $15 million. The investment was principally made to secure European marketing rights for the lemons.

WPP acquires £13.6m stake in rival

By Fraser Nelson

WPP, the advertising group run by Martin Sorrell, has bought a 14.4 per cent stake in rival CIA Group for up to £13.6 million in a move that could lead to them joining forces to buy advertising space.

CIA, which specialises in media buying, has been valued at £70.8 million through the agreement with WPP paying 170½p per share. CIA's shares increased 14p to a 12-month high of 174½p.

The deal comes two months after WPP merged the US advertising purchase arms of Ogilvy and JWT, its two largest subsidiaries — a move which analysts say may be repeated in the UK. WPP has already linked up with rival Omnicom to create The Media Partnership, now the second largest name in Europe for advertising space purchasing.

In Britain, CIA has more clout than either Ogilvy or JWT in the purchasing field. It has an annual spend of £230 million a year, against Ogilvy's £211 million and JWT's £174 million. Zenith is the market leader with an annual spend of £554 million. WPP will now become the largest external shareholder in CIA, owning a higher stake than any institution. It has paid a basic £10.2 million for the stake, and may pay an extra £3.3 million.

Two weeks ago, it completed investments in seven US Internet companies for a total of $11 million. Its shares rose 5p to 247p.

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AIR NEW

STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK

Shield Diagnostics back in favour on bid talk

SHIELD DIAGNOSTICS, the former high-flyer, was up and running again on talk of a bid from rival **British Biotech**.

The price ended the day 30p higher at 452½p, with a total of 233,670 shares changing hands in a market where traders normally quote a price in 2,000 at a time. There have been some big buyers of the stock in recent days and British Biotech is reckoned to have considered a link-up before now with Shield.

Whispers circulating around the Square Mile suggest British Biotech is prepared to offer £10 a share-plus. Such generous terms would give Shield a price tag of £193 million. That compares with the £1.69 billion that British Biotech, 1p easier at 257½p, is capitalised at.

Shield sprang to prominence last year with AF Factor 12, a process designed to detect cardiovascular ailments in the early stages. It is thought to be cheaper and more efficient than existing processes. Brokers say the market for such a process has huge potential.

Earlier this year the Shield share price tumbled from a peak of 805p after it emerged that blood samples contained in a US study had been corrupted.

Share prices generally staged a dramatic, late revival with the help of a strong opening rally on Wall Street and firmer bond prices. At one stage, the FT-SE 100 index was 38.6 down, reflecting an overnight fall in the Dow Jones industrial average and further gains by sterling against its main rivals. The index reduced the deficit to just 5.0 at 4,557.8, with a 965 million shares changing hands.

Halifax, this week's newcomer, finished lower on the day with a fall of 10p at 724½p as turnover reached 21.4 million shares. This compares with an opening price on Monday of 77op. BZW has issued ten million covered call warrants at 97p.

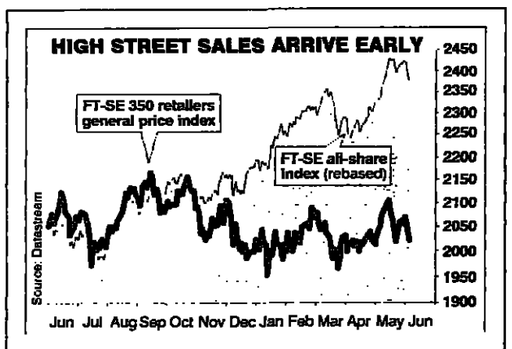
Alan Sugar's decision to start giving money back to **Amstrad** shareholders lifted the shares 13p to a peak of 277p. Amstrad proposes to hand back £200 million of surplus funds and Viglen Technology, its subsidiary, will become the new holding company. **BTR** dipped ½p to 198p, matching its lowest level since 1991, after a dinner with brokers on Monday night. They visited the group's Rockware glass and Brook Hansen powerdrive divisions. Little fresh news emerged to inspire brokers.

Stephen Wilson, left, and Michael Waller-Bridge may be about to go fundraising again at Tradepoint, down 20p

There was some much needed support for **P&O**, with the price adding 8p to 647p on the back of some positive comments from NatWest Securities, which is telling clients to "add" to their holdings.

Ladbroke added 5p to 244p ahead of a visit today to the group's gaming division. Earlier this week Goldman Sachs, the US securities house, upgraded its profit forecast.

The market had to contend with several gloomy trading statements. **Racal Electronics** shrugged off the profits setback with the price, up 1½p at 235p, underpinned by news of the proposed demerger.



JOHN DAVID SPORTS continued to reel from the news it had failed to shift certain lines of stock which would impact on margins. The price fell 21p to 250p, stretching the two-day loss to 80p. It also hurt other sportswear retailers with JJB Sports down 19½p at 473p, and Blacks Leisure 47¾p off at 471p.

Oasis Stores tumbled 73p to 267½p after warning the market that sales had fallen short of expectations. During the past couple of months directors of the company have sold shares worth more than £5 million. John Richards, retail analyst at NatWest Securities, says the fall in the shares of Oasis and John David Sports will be seen as a healthy correction.

"It is a conspicuous problem that these companies have brought upon themselves by tying up so much of their stock with limited brands".

Nike, the sportswear supplier, has already warned it will fail to meet its original forecast. "Nike could not sustain that degree of dominance", added Richards.

There was no such support for **De La Rue**, which lost 63½p at 421½p on news of its profits decline.

A slowdown in the rate of growth at **Brammer** left the shares nursing a fall of 48p at 631p.

Some impressive profit numbers from **Cleveland Trust** put 4½p on the shares at 110p. The industrial property developer, which owns the port of Boston, lifted profits by more than £300,000 to £1.96 million. David Haynes, chairman, says the current year has started well and he hinted that the group may be poised to make further acquisitions.

Speculation is mounting that AIM-listed **Tradepoint**, down 20p at 75p, is about to ask shareholders to dig deep into their pockets again for an extra £1 million. The loss-making company, which is a rival to the London stock market, is said to be asking for the money as an alternativeto obtaining long-term finance. Michael Waller-Bridge and Stephen Wilson, directors of the company, had been hoping to strike a deal to obtain further finance before last weekend's deadline expired.

Kalamazoo Computer jumped 13½p to 92½p after confirming that it had received a bid approach. The company warned the market that with 40 per cent of the shares tied up in a trust, it may prove difficult to make an offer.

Morrison Group stood out with a jump of 12½p at 292½p on the back of a 42 per cent leap in pre-tax profits last year to £16.2 million.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** The strength of sterling and firmer European bond markets combined to drive gilts sharply higher in thin trading, with gains stretching by more than £1. The Bank of England issued two small tranches of index-linked stock, which were immediately sold out.

In the futures pit, the September series of the long gilt surged £27/32 to £113 23/32 as a total of 92,000 contracts were completed. Treasury 8 per cent 2015 put on £1/32 at £108 19/32, while Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was three ticks higher at £103 3/16.

☐ **NEW YORK:** The Dow Jones industrial average pulled ahead after opening lower, ignoring declines in the Nasdaq and the technology sector. By midday it was 46.36 points stronger at 7,335.76.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones ..... 7335.76 (+46.36)
S&P Composite ..... 850.00 (+3.64)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average ..... 20563.16 (+111.31)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng ..... 14760.17 (-230.73)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index ..... 811.99 (+4.51)

Sydney:
AO ..... 2613.6 (-12.1)

Frankfurt:
DAX ..... 3625.74 (+20.12)

Singapore:
Straits ..... 2061.22 (+0.32)

Brussels:
General ..... 13032.88 (+51.77)

Paris:
CAC-40 ..... 2624.49 (+23.04)

Zurich:
SKA Gen ..... 1085.80 (+7.30)

London:

FT 30	2945.9 (+3.2)
FTSE 100	4557.8 (-5.0)
FTSE 250	4462.0 (-19.9)
FTSE 350	2212.7 (-3.9)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	2344.14 (+21.25)
FTSE All-Share	2174.41 (-4.27)
FTSE Non Financials	2198.57 (-4.35)
FTSE Fixed Interest	120.57 (+0.45)
FTSE Govt Secs	96.73 (+0.63)
Bargains	50103
SEAQ Volume	965.0m
US$	1.6362 (+0.0035)
German Mark	2.8244 (+0.0060)
Exchange Index	100.0 (+0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.4368
£:SDR	1.1778
RPI	156.3 Apr (2.4%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	155.8 Apr (2.5%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Alliance & Leicester	596½	-	5
Aston Villa	827½	-	2½
Cable & Wirless	259½	-	4
Caradon B	99½		...
Downing Hlth VCT	100		...
Eagles	35		...
Gallaher	277½	+	5
Halifax	724½	-	10
Heart of Midlothian	99½	-	4½
ITG Group	159½		...
Integrated As Mgmt	107½	+	2
Lady in Leisure	124½		...
Longbridge Intl	117½	-	2
NMT (50)	49	-	1
Newmark Tech	12		...
Pennine AIM VCT II	100		...
Petra Diamonds	65½	-	2
Petra Diamonds Wts	49½		...
Qualceram (143)	155½		...
Soccer Investments	105½		...
Soco International	236½		...
Topps Tiles	111½		...
Versalite Group	3½		...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Pillar Props n/p (205)	16½	...
Tadpole Tech n/p (10)	1¼	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Shield Diag	452½p (+30p)
Amstrad	277p (+13½p)
Legal & Gen	435p (+16½p)
Dixons Gp	481p (+13½p)
Ryl Bk Scot	581½p (+10p)
Gen Accident	888p (+11p)
Bass	775½p (+9p)

FALLS:

Blacks Leis	471p (-47½p)
Celltech	320p (-22½p)
JJB Sports	473p (-19½p)
Vendome	446½p (-15p)
Stoves	270½p (-9p)
AB Food	531p (-17p)
Kelsey Ind	435p (-12½p)
Cadbury-Schw	526½p (-15p)
AEA Tech	460p (-12½p)
Bank Scotland	364p (-9½p)
Psion	451p (-11½p)

Closing Prices Page 32

TEMPUS

Frost bite only temporary

AMID the fuss over Halifax's debut, a chill wind blew through the banking sector. Most of the price falls can be attributed to technical factors — funds liquidating positions to pay for Halifax shares. More fundamental are whispers about the Government's July Budget, and concerns about tax changes prompted at least one company to yesterday announce a revised dividend payment. The notion appears to be, pay out now or lose the tax credit.

In theory, the Government wants to wean the corporate sector off distribution and encourage investment of retained earnings. However, abolishing ACT and the corresponding tax credit will have little effect on some of the more obvious offenders. Among low tax-paying companies it could encourage even greater windfalls. Many utilities that came to the market with built-in tax shelters have sought to avoid paying extra tax, in the form of ACT, by classifying payouts to shareholders as capital repayments. Remove ACT and the tax problem disappears, leaving the door open to more windfalls from utilities.

But the chance of seeing a stock market favouring high-risk cyclical industrial shares looks slender at the moment. The earnings outlook is fair, but growth rates will inevitably shrink as the independent Bank of England sets sail for the land of almost-nil inflation. With an RPI of 2 per cent, earnings growth of 6 per cent becomes an achievement. Meanwhile, the banks will continue to thrive, throwing off excess capital and whittling down their bad-debt ratios just as they close their branches. Whatever the Government's agenda, the financial stocks could still be the winners.

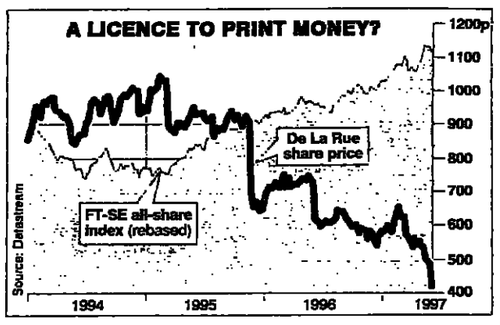
De La Rue

DE LA RUE's cosy world has disappeared, transformed by political changes and new technology. There is no longer any security in banknotes and with the profits from smartcards still elusive, De La Rue's share price should remain erratic.

On the political front, De La Rue is suffering a backlash from its great success during the early 1990s. At the time, the eastern European countries who had just escaped communism all wanted new banknotes and modern banking equipment. This led to a profits boom which has run its course.

De La Rue's bosses complain with some justification about the "accident-prone" label. Windfalls are just that and De La Rue cannot order a rerun. But on the technology front, the accusation is more plausible. Smartcards have yet to replace cash even in developed economies. The disappointing trial of the Mondex card in Swindon has shown as much. De La Rue is now toning down its optimism on quick profits from plastic.

The shares plummeted again yesterday but there is no quick fix in sight. The company's new banking machine promises a better future but the banks will take two years to test the machines before De La Rue gets a bulk order. While progress in new technology is proving tiresomely slow, the old banknotes business is getting fearsomely competitive. The next year could be more difficult still.



MEPC

MEPC escaped from the embrace of Hammerson because it was too expensive. The property group's shares currently trade at a 6 per cent premium to estimates of its year end net asset value yet MEPC itself is now eyeing the corporate sector with interest. Shielded by its own racy valuation, MEPC sees opportunities.

If they were out there, surely we would see more corporate activity, particularly among the property sector's tyros where one-man-and-his-dog companies run up million pound overheads to manage portfolios with a net worth of ten million. Unfortunately, the market is pricing even these assets highly but MEPC may be right in predicting corporate activity if the market for bricks and mortar continues to strengthen. London's West End is already hot: so is the market for shopping centres and good retail parks. If rents rise sharply and the cost of long term money falls, predators may begin to price today's bids against next year's values.

MEPC would be foolish to follow that road as the company is looking in better shape and has a chance of boosting the dividend next year. Having written off £73 million to cancel expensive swaps, it may feel uncomfortable offering shareholders an extra crumb. But those investors who wait could be rewarded as MEPC is better geared to rising values than rivals such as Land Securities.

Vodafone

THE MOBILE-phone leader in Britain, Vodafone is slowly losing market share in a business that is recruiting fewer and fewer subscribers. Of the four mobile-phone companies, Vodafone alone has developed a strong international presence. The question is whether the overseas growth is enough to offset flagging fortunes at home.

Vodafone recruited 1.14 million customers in the last financial year but the net gain was only 415,000, compared to 633,000 in the previous year. Wisely, Vodafone is doing little to retain low-margin, consumer customers, but weak growth rates are a wider problem in a market approaching saturation levels.

Overseas, Vodafone's investments are making faster progress with their first contribution to group profits and the aim is to convert minority stakes into controlling positions, allowing Vodafone to consolidate profits. The downside is that the price of control rises as the overseas operations become more profitable. Vodafone is caught in a two-way pull, and the shares are unlikely to outperform the market until it is clear that the international side has emerged as company's driving force.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Jul	1016-1017	Sep	1075-1074
Sep	1030-1036	Dec	1096-1095
Dec	1024-1027	Mar	1096-1097
Mar	1038-1037	May	1115-1108
May	1051-1049		
Jul	1063-1061		Volume 6856

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jul	2155 BID	Mar	1894
Sep	2190 BID	May	-
Nov	2205 ASK	Jul	-
Jan	2195 BID		Volume 9536

WHITE SUGAR (ICOM)

Reuters		Mar	317.5-16.5
Spot	335.5	May	315.0-14.5
June	329.0-29.5	Aug	314.0-12.5
Oct	320.0-20.0	Oct	309.0-8.0
Dec	317.0-16.5		Volume 3660

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on June 2

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	109.03	126.18	91.29
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
England & Wales	101.00	126.75	91.19
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Scotland	100.24	126.75	92.64
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
N Ireland	99.31	7.46	90.10
[illegible]	1.90	147.0	5.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Dtd (Jul)	19.65	-0.60
Brent 15 day (Jul)	19.05	-0.50
Brent 15 day (Aug)	19.15	-0.55
W Texas Intermediate (Jul)	20.35	-0.50
W Texas Intermediate (Aug)	20.55	-0.70

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	216.5-1.0	219.0(0.0)
Gasoil EEC	174.0-1.0	175.0-0.0
3.5 Fuel Oil	81.0(0.5)	82.0(0.5)
Naphtha	194.0-2.0	196.0-2.0

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Jun	170.00-70.25	Sep	175.50-75.75
Jul	171.25-71.50	Oct	177.50-78.00
Aug	173.50-73.75		Vol 19477

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jul	19.01-19.02	Oct	19.29-19.32
Aug	19.13-19.16	Nov	[illegible]
Sep	19.24 BID		Vol 33557

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jul	94.50	Sep	96.25
Sep	96.75	Nov	98.25
Nov	99.00	Jan	99.25
Jan	92.60	Mar	92.25
Mar	94.60	May	94.25
	Volume 515		Volume 40

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Jun	unq	50.0
Nov	-	58.0
Mar	-	106.7
		Volume 167

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

[illegible] Volume 2

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jun 97	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Jul 97	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Aug 97	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sep 97	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nov 97	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
		Open Interest	[illegible]
		Stock 12-6-97	[illegible]

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on June 2

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GB	109.03	126.18	91.29
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[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Scotland	100.24	126.75	92.64
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
N Ireland	99.31	7.46	90.10
[illegible]	1.90	147.0	5.0

(Official) (Volume prev day) — LONDON METAL EXCHANGE — Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	Settlement	Vol
Copper Grade A (£/tonne)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lead (£/tonne)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Zinc Spec Hi Grade (£/tonne)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tin (£/tonne)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Aluminium Hi Grade (£/tonne)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nickel (£/tonne)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Puts Jul	Puts Oct	Puts Jan
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Fossil warning has unions digging deeper to boost recruitment

David Blunkett will today give his first speech as Education and Employment Secretary to a mainstream trade union audience when he talks to the annual conference of the GMB in Brighton, with jobs and welfare to work as his key themes. Labour's election is bringing the trade unions back in from the cold. John Monks, the TUC general secretary, is back in Downing Street. Labour's new low-pay chief, Professor George Bain, the London Business School principal, is in place on the minimum wage.

But Labour in government will not solve the unions' continuing problems for them. As John Edmonds, the GMB leader, said: "Let us enjoy the election victory. But let us not wallow in it. It must be a spur to effort, not an excuse for relaxation."

When Mr Blunkett has left town, the union's traditional seaside jamboree will go into private session — to discuss its finances, its structures and its prospects. In common with most other trade unions, these do not look rosy for the GMB. Union membership and finances have declined sharply since Labour was last in power. In 1979, overall union membership stood at more than 13 million, and rising. Now it is seven million, and falling.

At a *Question Time*-style event at the GMB on Monday evening, chaired by Vincent Hanna, the broadcaster, union members uneasy about the Blair administration voiced their concerns about why the Government was not doing more — more on the minimum wage, more on union recognition. Angela Eagle, the Environment Minister and a former union researcher, batted the party line: government for the whole country, not particular groups; fairness not favours.

But the stark reality of the unions' position, and the reason why they will have only a fair rather than a disproportionate influence on the new Government, is spelt out plainly, almost brutally, in an internal GMB strategy study on the changing shape of the UK labour market, and the unions' chances in the face of them.

The unpublished paper, *Changing Job Patterns and GMB Recruitment Prospects*, says plainly that since 1979, when Labour was last in power, "the UK labour force has grown, by more than two million. But GMB membership has nearly halved".

Even on the "probably exaggerated" membership estimates then of around 1.4 million, with the true membership probably closer to 1.2 million, the decline has been shattering: membership at the start of this year was down to around 715,000.

"The changing pattern of employment has hit us hard," the study admits. Falls in manufacturing jobs, the privatisation of the utilities, the union being "poorly placed" in the race to recruit in sectors such as banking and insurance all took their toll.

The document says: "Were it not for the traditional GMB strength in public services, and the relatively stable share that non-marketed services such as local government and the NHS have taken in total employment since 1979, GMB membership might have sunk like a stone."

Even after taking account of the membership boosts that mergers with six separate unions have given it since 1979, the precise figures are startling: a 45 per cent fall in construction membership, a 50 per cent drop in primary industries such as coal and power and a 64 per cent plunge in manufacturing — down from 870,000 to just 315,000. Even in public services, the area of some strength, the drop has been 29 per cent.

Only in business and miscellaneous services has there been an increase — up from 5,000 in 1979 to 47,000 now.

Even the advent of a Labour Government looks unlikely to change the expected pattern of jobs, and so of union membership. As the GMB document says: "The forecasts are that the labour force will grow by a further one million over the next ten years. Clearly the expanding labour force is no guarantee of growth in GMB membership." The study draws on employment forecasts compiled by the widely respected Institute for Employment Research at Warwick University to look at where job growth is likely to be, and what the unions can do to keep up with the trends.

GMB leaders are trying to focus the union on recruitment, mirroring the pattern deployed with considerable success by unions in the United States. Andy Stern, of the SEIU public service union in America, impressed the GMB conference this week with talk of, how in a declining market, his union has doubled its size since the mid-1980s.

Stern's union now spends half its total budget on recruitment. He says: "Decisions you make about organising are far more important than the general election decision on May 1. It is no good waiting for the pendulum to swing back towards unions: you must get out there and do it."

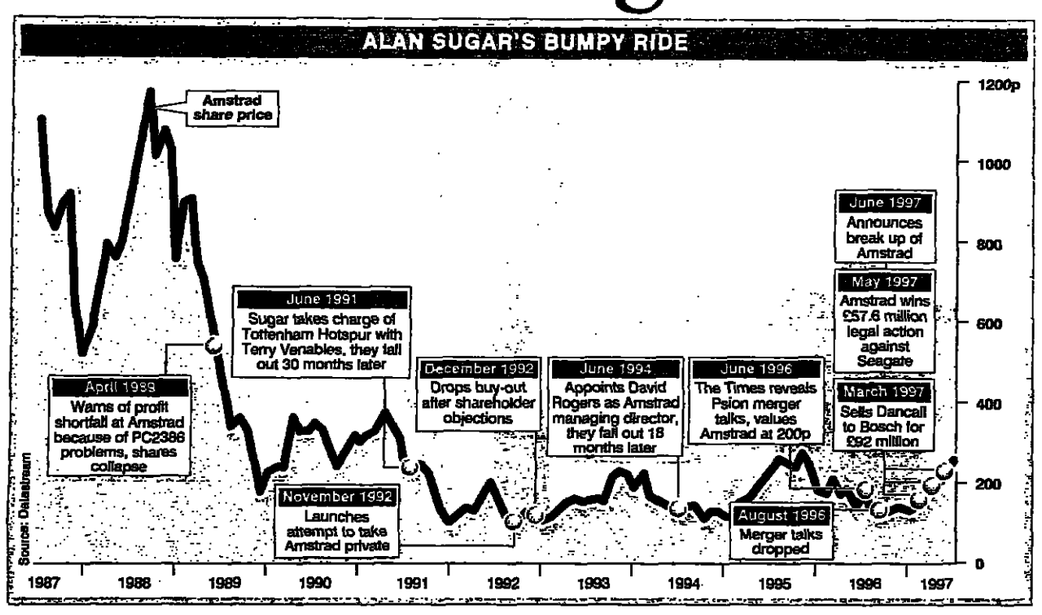
After 18 years without a Labour Government, Britain's unions are unlikely to dismiss so brusquely Labour's election victory. But they are now targeting recruitment: the GMB is setting aside £500,000 this year — just over 1 per cent of the union's spending — for a recruitment fund to finance new officials on short-term contracts to boost membership.

The GMB has a long way to go — and, on these issues, it is better placed than others. As Andy Stern says: "Organising is about survival. It is a question of fossilise or change." Or as John Edmonds says: "After the Labour victory, the whole of Britain expects a resurgence of trade unionism. We must not disappoint them." But he adds: "We have a future to make — and we have to make it ourselves."

PHILIP BASSETT
Industrial Editor

Sugar the reluctant computer guru is returning to his roots

Jason Nissé on a radical restructuring that will see the Amstrad name dropped



Alan Sugar has never been comfortable with technology. The supposedly typical Essex man (though he was born in Hackney 50 years ago) started by selling car aerials out of the back of a van. He epitomised the 1980s Thatcher go-getter culture, bought Tottenham Hotspur at the height of his fortune and recently became a convert to new Labour, being appointed Tony Blair's ambassador to schools, educating the new generation on business. En route he has amassed a fortune of more than £200 million.

But Sugar was always a reluctant computer guru. His idea of making cheap word processors mushroomed in the late 1980s into a billion pound business selling personal computers. Before the faults started appearing in his PC2386 and PC2286 units, Amstrad had two thirds of the home computer market in the UK and was making profits of £160 million a year. Now Sugar is shedding the technology and going back to his roots.

His technophobia was never better shown than in the BBC documentary about Sugar two years ago. Challenged by a minion to set up a company-wide e-mail system, he was dismissive. When pressed, Sugar turned on the man, saying: "I'll tell you what I'll do. I'll send you your salary by electronic mail."

Yesterday's deal was Sugar's vindication. A year ago, when *The Times* revealed that Sugar was talking to David Potter of Psion about a merger, the City was full of praise for the innovation of Psion and wondered why it wanted Amstrad. The merger, which would have involved Psion taking over Amstrad for £250 million in shares, fell apart. When asked what he would do, Sugar said he'd slick back his hair and change his name to Dan Wagner, a reference to the youthful boss of the high-flying MAID. What he actually did was set about vindicating his position.

Sugar sold Dancall, the Danish mobile-phone business he bought out of receivership for £93 million, to Bosch. The deal surprised analysts, who had the business valued at less than £50 million. At the time he commented: "I always said it was worth a lot. No one believed me." He then won his legal action against Seagate, maker of the disk drives for the ill-fated Amstrad personal computers, and is now seeking a similar settlement from the other supplier, Western Digital. "Who knows where this company would have been if this problem had not happened," was Sugar's view.

Now he can hand out £163 million of cash, float Viglen for £140 million ("I've never had anything to do with the management that why it's done so well," says Sugar), pursue the legal actions in a separate trust and concentrate on turning tiny Betacom into the new Amstrad. The overall value of the restructured company is about £400 million, making Sugar's 34 per cent holding worth about £140 million.

Better than getting the money — and Sugar believes that making money is the ultimate measure of a good businessman — the deal proves Sugar was right. "I'd like to thank BZW and Charterhouse Bank for advising their clients so well, they've done me a great favour," he said. BZW and Charterhouse were the merchant banks acting for Psion.

Sugar has always believed that the market undervalued Amstrad. In 1992, frustrated by the company's low rating, he attempted to take it private. A shareholder ginger group led by Gideon Fiegel, a small investor from north London, blocked the deal. It took three-and-a-half years for the share price to recover to what Sugar was prepared to offer.

Sugar has never been one to shy away from publicity. He drives a Rolls-Royce with the number place AMS1. He has a 160ft yacht, *Louisiana*, which is available on charter at £107,000 a week. His property interests include the building that houses the Hard Rock Café in Mayfair.

Nor is he one to shy away from an argument. Sugar speaks his mind about his business, often causing embarrassment and ruffled feathers — as he did this year when he claimed prematurely that he was about to be given a large contract by BSkyB, which is 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of *The Times*. As chairman of Spurs he is often quoted on the level of player wages or the loyalty of foreign imports, famously saying he would use the shirt worn by former Spurs star Jürgen Klinsmann to wash his car.

Asked yesterday if he would be giving any of his cash to Spurs, he said: "They've got enough already." He then broke off from Amstrad to launch into a diatribe about Teddy Sheringham, the Spurs striker and scorer of England's second goal against Poland on Saturday, who had the temerity to ask for a transfer. "He can go if he wants," Sugar said.

For Sugar loyalty means agreeing with the boss. He has always run businesses himself and when he brought in people to work with him, it has ended in tears. The most famous falling-out was with Terry Venables, the football manager, who joined with Sugar to buy Spurs. When Sugar fired Venables in May 1993, the legal fall-out took the two into the High Court, with accusations of "bungs" and problems with transfers, and has ended with Venables being investigated by the Department for Trade and Industry. Sugar also recruited David Rogers from Philips as managing director. The BBC documentary showed the two in an uneasy relationship, and Rogers left 18 months after joining.

Now Norman Becker, the chief executive of Betacom, faces Sugar changing from part-time to full-time chairman. Sugar sees Betacom as an early-1980s Amstrad — a low-cost manufacturer of cheap consumer electronics, nothing fancy, mind, and nothing too high-tech. Betacom will take on the Amstrad brand name and, in time, may change its name to Amstrad as well. The only worry for Becker is that he will find himself attempting to run a company where Sugar is chairman, the largest shareholder and with little other than a few opinionated footballers and a legal action to distract him — not exactly a marriage made in heaven.

ANTHONY HARRIS

Emu: how the Americans don't see it

Lionel Jospin has done something more startling than winning an election against the expectations of the London market: he has made American business fleetingly aware of the EMU project. It is worried not about a hard euro, but a soft one — known here as a "marshmallow euro". This fear surfaced after the first round of the French elections: a soft euro, as the *Journal of Commerce* reported on its front page, might give European exporters an edge over the Americans. Hardly panic in the streets, admittedly; indeed, I doubt if the industrialists who were quoted had given the matter a thought until some bright spark at the Journal posed the question. But at least it made the front page for a day.

Now, with Jospin's big win, there is growing hope that EMU may not happen at all. And if it does, it will surely come unstuck, because the bank computers that must make it work will have crashed. The US, in other words, is obsessed with the computer 2000 problem. This glitch may be more intractable here than in Europe, because many American mainframes are older. They were programmed in the days when memory was expensive, and it is now very hard to find the programing veterans who can remember how the old, compact system worked. Some are enjoying an unexpectedly lucrative retirement.

But even when EMU looked workable, the great project rated hardly even a down-page mention. It was regarded as a purely European concern: and the Americans are again getting comfortable with the idea of Euro-sclerosis. If Mercedes-Benz, the epitome of Teutonic thoroughness, opens a plant in Alabama — of all red-neck states — as it did last week, then operating conditions on the Continent must be pretty terrible. Britain, they are aware, is rather different, after Mrs Thatcher's Reaganite revolution; and Tony Blair is fascinating in his own right. Hey, they have their own Bill Clinton! But the rest, as seen from here, is history. ("Here" because fate brought me briefly back to Washington during the new French revolution.)

Washington itself, of course, is a world apart (a world known everywhere else as "inside the Beltway"): here politics — even foreign politics — is the only topic. The indefatigable Fred Bergsten's Institute for International Economics has addressed the insiders in a whole series of briefs and seminars. They have been trying hard to stifle their yawns; but they are still hardly engaged with the arguments. In general the foreign policy wonks are in favour: if EMU helps to unite Europe, as its proponent claim, it must be a Good Thing (even if Americans do remember a terrible civil war within one currency zone). Professional economists are less impressed: "They're crazy!" one snorted. "How can you have a currency without a Government?" Well, there was the cowrie shell; but it is a good question, as M Jospin would no doubt agree.

One aspect that nobody mentions, for or against, is the mainly French idea of a strong euro to "stand up to the dollar". For Americans the dollar is simply a fact. It may sometimes be a problem; but a threat? The idea seems absurd, even to an international economist who is quite euro-friendly. "It is simply a non-issue", he told me. Indeed, it is. In this country, Donald McDougall wrote a book on the dollar shortage just as it was becoming a dollar glut, and took years to live it down. But the French idea of the *défi Americain*, which is of almost exactly the same vintage, seems to have discovered the secret of life after death. Odd, that.

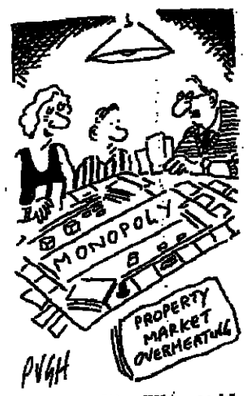
P.S. But not, perhaps, as odd as the first thing I heard on returning: John Major warning that a soft euro would be at the mercy of the markets. Can he really imagine, after nine crisis-ridden years in office, that any currency is not at the mercy of the markets? The EMU idea seems to breed fantasy even in its opponents.

Peak practice

A TRULY towering achievement for Mark Warham, a director of corporate finance at Schroders. He has become the 30th Briton to reach the summit of Mount Everest, having taken ten weeks' leave of absence from a very understanding merchant bank for his second attempt. Apparently there are virtually package tours these days that take unrelated groups of experienced climbers to the top. His 11-strong team included a Mexican civil servant, some Icelanders and a Yorkshire farmer, among others. Each paid about $30,000.

"It's only been possible for people like me over the past five or ten years," he says. "The technology is amazing, particularly communications. It's a far cry from the 1950s. If you get good weather, it's challenging, but its not like walking on the Moon.

"I was very lucky, I had the most fantastic weather on summit day, having had awful weather in May — not a cloud in the whole of Asia as far as I could see."



"Pay you 18 million quid for the Old Kent Road"

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

● *SHOULD you be planning a serious pensions heist, this week looks a good time for it. I have invitations to not one but two high-powered conferences that seem to require the personal attendance of virtually every City watchdog. We kick off today with Howard Davies, soon to be head of the Securities and Investments Board, opening a three-day international derivatives conference in London's Inter-Continental Hotel. Across town at the Portman, Richard Farrant, head of the Securities and Futures Authority, and chairman Nick Durlacher will be joined by Michael Blair, QC, from the SIB, and others from Imro at a conference on the future of financial regulation. You also get Helen Liddell, the Treasury Minister. Seems a pity to sit inside when the weather's so nice.*

Missing face

OFF to the Royal Academy, for the glittering summer exhibition preview that Guinness, as sponsor, puts on each year. An amazing turnout of the great and good; Ken Clarke, Peter Lilley, even Jack Cunningham, Labour's heritage spokesman during the election, when his fondness for and grasp of the fine arts earned him the soubriquet the Member for Philistine East. Sir Anthony Tennant, one-time chairman of Guinness, was there — he is now chairman of the Royal Academy, it seems. And there is a good turnout of the soon to be merged Guinness and Grand Metropolitan boards. There is, though, one Guinness director invited but missing. What can have kept Bernard Arnault, chairman of LVMH and now trying to kick the Guinness-GrandMet merger apart? "He's never been," insists a source. "Well, maybe once."

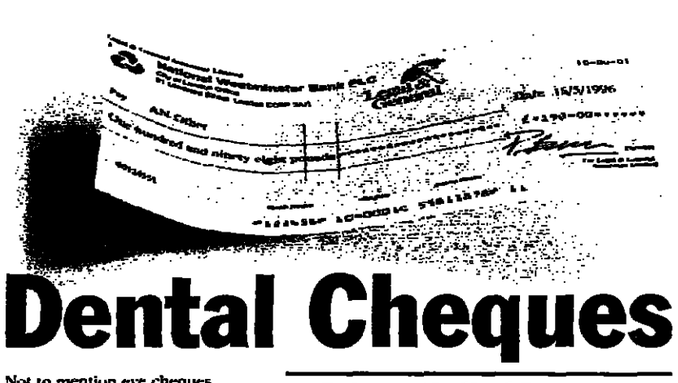
● *THE really rather charming Mary Brasier, The Daily Telegraph's European business editor, is the latest experienced City journalist to take off into public relations. Since last summer she has been working on a freelance basis, most recently helping the Action Centre for Europe, a business think-tank, with a report on the single market due out tomorrow. This appears to have been the last straw in two decades of journalism. She is joining Dewe Rogerson as an international director. "I'm not going into PR," she says. Pause. "Well, yes, I am going into PR."*

Overboard

CABLE and Wireless, taking a page from the Richard Branson book of corporate promotion, is spending millions on sponsoring a one-boat effort to break the round-the-world record set by the *USS Triton*, a nuclear submarine that completed the voyage underwater in 83 days in 1960. The C&W speedboat leaves from Gibraltar next April under the command of Jock Wisart, the sort of gonzo type whose idea of fun is to walk to the North Pole or row solo across the Atlantic. Dick Brown, C&W's American chief executive, told an admiring audience that he might go along for the ride, or at least part of it. He later admitted privately that he would be doing nothing of the kind. No thank you, sir, not Mrs Brown's little boy. Beneath that macho veneer beats the heart of a trembling chicken.

MARTIN WALLER

Dick Brown: taking a leaf out of Richard Branson's book



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Late rally boosts prices

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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
469	407½	Allied Domecq†	436	+ 6	5.8	13.1
626	527½	Bulmer (HP)	562½	..	3.2	15.9
75½	55	Burn Stewart	56½	..	7.5	14.1
1040	865	Glenmorangie A	990	+ 5	1.8	..
613	435½	Grand Met	573½	+ 5	3.5	18.2
615	424	Guinness	577	+ 8	3.5	16.5
360	321½	Highland Dist	332	..	3.3	15.6
336	293	Matthew Clark	296½	..	11.7	12.2
109½	70½	Minorco W	72	..	8.0	97
1978½	1862½	SA Brewers†	1740½	+ 25	2.3	..

BANKS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
4705½	3671½	ABN-AMRO	4334½	+ 6½	2.6	18.2
971	710	Abbey Nat	841½	+ 6	3.9	14.6
655	532½	Alliance & Leic	596½	+ 6	3.4	14.8
470½	389½	Allied Irish	467½	+ 8	3.9	12.0
429½	353½	Aus New Z	424	+ 5½	4.5	..
7678½	5753½	Bank America	7053½	+ 106½	..	..
436½	391½	Bank Scotland†	434	+ 9½	2.8	11.1
1299	978½	Barclays	1161½	+ 26½	3.4	11.7
703½	517½	Bk of Ireland	645	+ 11½	3.5	..
7890½	6006½	Citicorp	6918½	+ 90½	..	..
1759½	1369½	Commerzbk	1718½	+ 3½	2.5	..
863½	559½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	719½	+ 28½	0.6	..
3593½	2709½	Deutsche Bk	3425	..	1.9	..
1059½	759½	Espirito Santo	1025	- 16½	3.6	..
877½	594½	Fuji Bank Y	824	+ 9½	0.5	..
1917	1272½	HSBC	1848½	- 26	2.8	16.0
1841	1241	HSBC Hk	1775	- 33	2.9	15.4
776	714	Halifax	724½	- 10	2.6	21.6
610	483½	Irish Perm	565	- 5	2.8	..
845	634	Lloyds TSB	808	- 3½	2.8	18.8
888½	658½	Nat Aust Bk	878½	+ 1½	4.7	11.8
841½	663½	Nat West	722½	- 2	5.0	10.8
663½	508	Nat Bk Scotl	581½	+ 10	4.2	12.5
1046	881	Sand Chart	942½	- 5	1.9	18.9
116½	1165½	Wells Fargo	1164½	..	1.7	..
374½	315½	Westpac	321½	- 9½	4.8	..

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
878½	763½	Bass†	779½	- 9	4.1	14.5
68½	47½	Brk for the Brk	47½	- 2	4.6	13.0
205	152½	Burtonwd Brn	154	- 1½	4.6	13.9
155½	123	City Center Rest	130	..	2.4	21.7
144½	612½	Compass Gp	670½	- 4½	1.7	24.5
306	250	Dobbs P A	303	..	3.3	16.6
615	424	Enterprise	577	+ 8	3.5	16.5
360	321½	Highland Dist	332	..	3.3	15.6
336	293	Matthew Clark	296½	..	11.7	12.2
109½	70½	Minorco W	72	..	8.0	97
1978½	1862½	SA Brewers†	1740½	+ 25	2.3	..

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
33½	17½	AMF Inds	18½	- 1	..	..
205	170	Abbey	200	..	3.5	20.5
347½	257½	Allen	340	..	1.5	..
147½	90½	Amec	142	..	3.5	..
512	347½	Amey	498	- 1	2.3	22.2
666	485	Ashtrom Sytec†	617½	- 7½	2.0	18.3
413½	322½	Ashtead	300	- 4½	1.3	21.1
48½	39½	Avonside	45½	- ½	2.7	12.1
42	30	Bailey (Ben) Conf	39	..	4.2	8.1
48½	34½	Bardon	31	- 1½	4.4	19.4
624	439	Barcom	564	..	2.7	15.4
291½	236½	Barratt Devs	239	- 4½	4.5	13.3
162	102	Beazer	107	- 2	4.6	12.9
381½	299½	Bellway†	331½	- 1	3.1	14.8
21½	16½	Bellwinch	18	..	..	..
769½	606	Berkeley Gp	711	..	1.5	17.8
165	142	Best Bricks	148	- 1	4.9	5.0
340	230	Bett (Henry)†	327½	- 7½	3.1	13.2
107½	87½	Brandon Hire	107½	..	3.1	14.2
35½	27½	Britannia Gp	30½	..	2.0	..
70	42½	Br Bldg & Eng	53½	- 1	..	..
159	121½	Bryant	136	- 1½	5.0	17.6
125½	99½	CALA	112½	..	3.9	14.8
6½	4	Campbell & Arm	4½	..	..	..
81½	53½	Clarke T	68½	..	8.9	12.1
46	45	Costain	46	..	..	..
105	71	Countryside	98	..	3.2	15.0
107½	80½	Crest Nicholson	107	..	2.9	22.6
94½	67½	Cussins†	90	..	5.1	10.4
175	165	Eve Group	172½	..	11	..
24	15½	Galliford	21½	..	5.8	23.5
93½	85½	Gleeson (M)†	92½	..	2.3	16.7
62½	45½	Green (Eric)	62½	..	6.0	10.7
320	285	Hawtin (Ian)	317	- 1½	11.7	20.0
160	123	Hendon (Sam)	157½	..	2.5	25.7
21½	16½	Howard Hldgs	17½	..	5.7	18.7
292½	132½	Jarvis	270	- 6½	0.7	..
271½	182½	Keller	271½	..	2.2	19.5
250½	189½	Kier	221½	- 1	3.7	13.2
380½	279	Lang (JI)†	380½	..	3.1	34.4
130½	110½	Laing 6.4% Cv Pf	128½	..	6.2	..
14½	9	Lovell (TJ)	11½	- ½	..	..
210½	162½	Manders (J)	194½	..	3.8	14.2
167½	125½	McAlpine (A)	136½	- 3½	6.4	68.5
155½	95½	McCarthy & St	128	..	2.4	15.3
75	53½	Mckeaney	65	..	..	..
233½	171½	Morgan Sindall	171½	- 7	3.1	13.1
306½	234½	Morrison Const	292½	+ 12½	2.2	..
144	109½	Mowlem (JM)	132½	- 2	2.8	14.5
266	214	Persimmon	252	- 3½	5.1	10.9
125	100	Pochin	105	..	3.0	10.9
124½	97½	Prowting†	132	- 2	3.8	21.7
21½	12½	Rand Ind	19½	- ½	..	15.3
179½	145½	Redrow	158	- 1½	2.7	16.1
315	255	Shand Hldgs	309½	- 4½	2.9	17.5
79	48	Shorcrest	74½	- 1½	7.0	15.3
352½	237½	Speedie	340	- 2½	1.2	17.4
103	77½	Spen Hill†	80½	- ½	3.9	..
153½	115	Try Homes	135	- 1	6.6	29.3
215	153	Taylor Woodrow	202½	- 2	3.3	18.0
767½	512½	Tilbury Douglas	762½	..	3.8	19.8
27½	13½	Ivy Group	24½	..	..	147
86	58½	Vibroplant	82½	..	6.1	..
147½	112	Warnholmes	145½	- 1	3.9	..
64½	36½	Ward Hldgs	49½	..	..	..
271	236½	Westbury†	256½	- 9½	3.5	..
10½	7½	Wiggins	9½	..	..	38.1
173½	147½	Wilson (C)	150	..	4.0	16.6
545	471½	Wilson Bowden	505½	- 2	2.7	17.3
155	125	Wimpey G	130½	..	5.3	41.2

BUILDING MATERIALS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
65½	33	Aggregate Inds†	50	..	5.0	21.3
385	305	BPB	334	- 6	3.7	16.1
110½	91½	Baggeridge Bk	101	- 2	3.9	25.3
48½	37½	Blackburn†	43½	..	..	..
491½	361	Blue Circle†	466	- 4	4.1	17.3
91½	78½	Brecon PLC	83½	..	7.2	12.9
152½	118	Br Dredging	150	..	4.9	12.3
647½	502½	CRH	601½	- 3	1.8	..
79½	57½	Carbrook Rby	59½	..	7.1	5.4
152½	102½	Cape	154	..	4.6	..
213	209	Caradon	209	- 2	5.7	10.3
130½	111	Caradon pl	112½	- 1	1.8	..
65½	50½	Chellaston Gp	60½	..	6.2	6.4
27½	21½	Dyson (J&J)	25	..	2.7	13.8
145	122	Dyson A	134	..	4.7	7.9
..	2½	Evestone	3½	- ½	..	..
240	233	Ewart	240	- 2½	3.7	15.9
152½	112½	Fluor	134	- 1	0.9	11.7
90½	61	Giles & Dandy	90½	- 2	3.2	8.7
184	128	Graham Gp	143½	..	4.6	23.9
267½	165½	Hartstaff (JJ)	267½	- 2	4.5	12.2
133½	27½	Hanson	30½	- 3	4.5	..
195½	155½	Heywood†	190	- 1½	7.4	12.2
67	55½	Hoveringham	57½	..	5.7	17.5
21½	15½	Howard Wilm	21½	- 2	8.0	3.0
79½	66	Ibstock†	70	..	3.6	9.7
52½	37½	Johnson†	49	..	3.1	13.5
8	5½	Lindsell	7½	..	6.7	12.5
142	115	Marley	132½	- 1	5.0	13.2
162½	115	Marshalls	138	..	4.1	14.8
425	321½	Meyer Int	410	- 3½	3.5	16.6
159½	132	Norman Tiles	172½	..	5.0	..
75½	62½	Norcros	68½	..	1.8	..
19½	12½	Phoenix Timber	20½	..	1.7	51.0
168	118	Pilkington	170	- 1½	3.2	19.2
28½	21½	Pilkington	21½	- ½	1.8	17.9
102½	83½	RMC Gp	100½	- 1½	3.7	12.4
37½	26½	Redland	32½	- 3	3.4	16.7
8½	5½	Ruberoid	6½	- 1	6.9	22.5
111	91½	Rugby Group	110½	- 1	3.9	29.8
146½	112½	Sanderson	142	- 1	3.5	16.6
21½	16½	Sheffield Hldgs	17½	..	5.7	18.7
292½	132½	Jarvis	270	- 6½	0.7	..
271½	182½	Keller	271½	..	2.2	19.5
250½	189½	Kier	221½	- 1	3.7	13.2
380½	279	Lang (JI)†	380½	..	3.1	34.4
130½	110½	Laing 6.4% Cv Pf	128½	..	6.2	..
14½	9	Lovell (TJ)	11½	- ½	..	..
210½	162½	Manders (J)	194½	..	3.8	14.2
167½	125½	McAlpine (A)	136½	- 3½	6.4	68.5
155½	95½	McCarthy & St	128	..	2.4	15.3
75	53½	Mckeaney	65	..	..	..
233½	171½	Morgan Sindall	171½	- 7	3.1	13.1
306½	234½	Morrison Const	292½	+ 12½	2.2	..
144	109½	Mowlem (JM)	132½	- 2	2.8	14.5
266	214	Persimmon	252	- 3½	5.1	10.9
125	100	Pochin	105	..	3.0	10.9
124½	97½	Prowting†	132	- 2	3.8	21.7
21½	12½	Rand Ind	19½	- ½	..	15.3
179½	145½	Redrow	158	- 1½	2.7	16.1
315	255	Shand Hldgs	309½	- 4½	2.9	17.5
79	48	Shorcrest	74½	- 1½	7.0	15.3
352½	237½	Speedie	340	- 2½	1.2	17.4
103	77½	Spen Hill†	80½	- ½	3.9	..
153½	115	Try Homes	135	- 1	6.6	29.3
215	153	Taylor Woodrow	202½	- 2	3.3	18.0
767½	512½	Tilbury Douglas	762½	..	3.8	19.8
27½	13½	Ivy Group	24½	..	..	147
86	58½	Vibroplant	82½	..	6.1	..
147½	112	Warnholmes	145½	- 1	3.9	..
64½	36½	Ward Hldgs	49½	..	..	..
271	236½	Westbury†	256½	- 9½	3.5	..
10½	7½	Wiggins	9½	..	..	38.1
173½	147½	Wilson (C)	150	..	4.0	16.6
545	471½	Wilson Bowden	505½	- 2	2.7	17.3
155	125	Wimpey G	130½	..	5.3	41.2

DISTRIBUTORS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

CHEMICALS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

ELECTRICITY

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
183½	135½	Br Energy PP	139	+ ½	7.2	..
671½	660	East Midlands	670	..	5.9	99
675	463½	Energy Group	543½	- 1	4.8	10.5
254	132	National Grid	233½	- 2	2.4	18.3
581	460½	National Power	505½	- 7	6.2	10.0
413	352½	Nth Ireland	408½	- ½	6.6	86
701	565½	PowerGen†	653	- 9½	4.8	10.2
404½	319½	Hydro-Elect	399½	+ 1	6.1	10.3
397	331½	Scottish Power	369	- 2	6.5	9.4
451½	373½	Southern Elec	396½	- 5	7.3	8.7

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

ENGINEERING

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

INSURANCE

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
140	115	Arlanet	115	..	8.5	16.2
197	185	Arthur Sinclair†	185	..	5.4	..
757	610	Avon Rubber†	610	- 3½	4.1	12.6
265	225½	Bertrams†	261	..	3.1	11.6
18½	16½	Brownlee	18½	..	..	15.3
107	87½	Bristol	98½	..	4.5	13.5
762	635½	Fast Tech	756	..	1.6	22.4
1064½	907	GKN	1050	- 13½	3.2	..
365½	329½	General Mtr	348½	- 2½	3.5	..
583½	415½	Hardy	473½	- 7	4.0	11.2
2051	1540½	Hawtin Motor	1874½	- 6½	4.3	..
413½	344½	Lucas	377	- 1½	4.3	10.8
228	180	Lucas Varity†	183½	- 2½	0.0	18.5
183½	131	Mallowe	147	- 1½	1.9	27.7
329	237½	Spirax	329	..	2.3	10.2
178	123	T & N	123½	+ ½	6.1	..
89½	32½	Tand	43½	..	..	..
339½	242½	Tomkys Hldgs	242½	- 6	4.7	11.5

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
420	302½	Amalgamated	411½	+ 3½	1.6	..
328	259	Ascot Hldgs†	274	..	..	..
917	790	Bunzl Hll	877½	- 12½	2.7	20.8
289	195½	BTR	198	- ½	4.0	11.2
352½	292½	Vardy (Reg)	302½	..	2.8	13.5
677	498½	VF Corp†	674	..	2.6	24.5
41	28	Wilshaw	28½	- ½	3.8	8.3
172½	140½	Wyko	140½	..	2.4	16.4
154½	119½	Young (HJ)	143½	- 1	3.7	12.2

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
671	454	AB Foods	531	- 17	2.3	17.6
311½	271½	Associ. Br Foods	303½	..	4.4	15.2
45½	37½	Albert Fisher†	37½	..	12.4	9.0
320	275	Banks (S G)	301½	..	4.7	11.4
425	322	Barr (AG)	380½	+ 3	2.8	20.6
43	30	Beesons Crop	37	..	3.4	9.3
402	293½	Bowater†	295	..	10.1	..
31½	20½	Brattwick	27½	+ ½	6.1	..
220	95	CPL Aromas	100	- 1½	6.4	5.0
566½	461	Cadbury-Schw	526½	- 15	4.0	14.8
104½	62½	Camden Fizzy	101	..	6.2	11.7
335	300	Cans Midlgd†	300	..	4.6	99
91½	60	Cavaghan	66	- ½	7.1	..
267½	203½	Cranswick	265	..	4.9	..
225	195½	Daily Chrst Group	220	+ 5½	5.0	9.6
362½	261½	Dalgety	325	+ 2	10.0	24.0
52½	37½	Danish Bc†	44½	- ½	0.7	35.8
326	263½	Devro	326	+ 2	3.2	23.8
123½	79½	Finlay (James)†	118½	- 1	3.9	17.4
297	250	Geest†	287½	..	2.7	17.5
26	19½	Global	22	..	3.7	11.8
330	300	Greencore	320	..	2.8	12.7
123	100½	Hazlewood Fds	103	+ 2½	8.1	7.6
200½	172	Hillsdown†	178	+ 2½	7.0	11.4
77½	52½	JJ Group	58½	..	10.6	..
412	363	Linton Park†	410	..	4.9	10.4
142	119	Matthews (B)	139½	..	4.1	10.0
210½	177½	Nichols (V)	210	..	4.2	12.5
226	188½	Nthn Foods	192½	+ 1½	5.9	13.3
22½	13	Nthmbrn Pr	18½	- ½	1.0	..
105	62	Pacecos	90	..	..	16.0
88½	68½	Pictons Food	84	+ ½	6.7	9.9
72½	47½	Plant & Gen	69	- ½	3.6	..
167½	107½	Sentry Farms	117½	+ 3½	5.4	8.3
41½	29½	Smc Food	35	..	..	..
485	417½	Tate & Lyle†	450	- 1	4.7	14.2
191½	150	Tredi	153	..	4.7	13.6
495½	414	Unigate	494	..	4.9	12.5
1730	1351	Unilever	1615½	- 14	2.5	25.1
1125½	994½	Unilever (NV)	1119½	+ 50	1.8	14.6
253½	205	Utd Biscuits†	205	- 2	6.1	13.9
35½	29½	WI Foods	31	- ½	5.4	21.1
15½	10½	Yorkshire Food	11½	..	9.8	..

HEALTHCARE

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1447½	1100	Amersham	1357½	- 2½	1.8	22.4
148	118	Assoc Hosp	123	- 1	3.5	11.3
627½	472½	Bespak	600	- 2½	2.4	8.9
1432½	820	Boots Co†	1310	- 2½	..	..
140	104	Cara Pres	121	- 1½	3.6	..
119½	96	Carr (Jas)	117	..	5.1	15.8
174½	100½	Celsis	101	- 1	..	..
390½	355½	Community H	373½	- 1½	3.5	15.7
31	20½	CrestaCare	27½	..	4.3	13.7
20	15½	Drewmed	16	..	..	..
167½	118½	Fisons	126½	- 1	2.9	12.3
132½	117½	Glaxowellcome	126	- ½	4.3	12.9
216	155	Hadrgh Tech	176	..	2.1	19.5
390	167½	Innovative Tech	289	+ 1½	..	..
85	60	Isatech Gp	81	- ½	5.4	15.1
350	230	Isotron	350	..	2.1	15.3
137½	88	Life Sciences	134	..	4.4	..
163	156	Lon Ltd	172½	- 1½	2.1	23.1
142½	122½	Nestor-BNA	145	..	3.0	20.4
30	24	Premier Health	19½	- 1½	..	..
326	268	Quality Care	325	..	2.1	97
319½	232½	Scholl	298	- ½	3.2	..
507½	437½	Seton Health	475	- 1½	2.3	..
919	723	Sheed Dun	452½	+ 30	..	..
197½	161½	Smith & Nephew	171	- ½	4.3	16.2
3½	3	Tadand	3	..	3.1	14.7
273½	243½	Unichem†	267	..	4.1	22.0
302½	236½	West Hthcare	262	- 4	3.2	14.3

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

ELEC. & ELECTRONICS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
94	78½	Edin Dragon	85½	- ½	..	..
30½	24	Edinburgh Instr	30½	..	..	..
391	342½	Edinburgh ITI	374½	..	3.6	..
132½	102½	Edin Jaques	130	..	..	..
502	428½	Electro Inv	488½	- ½	2.1	45.7
257½	86½	English Nat	237½	+ 1½	0.2	..
156½	144½	Eng & Scot	151½	..	2.5	39.4
406½	372	Europlacer Asset	394	- 1	1.3	..
108½	90½	Fidity Asian Val	107	- ½	..	..
260½	216½	Fidity Euro Val	252½	- 1	0.2	..
47½	36	Fidity Jap Val	46½	..	0.3	..
136½	126	Fidity Spec Val	127½	- 2	..	..
225½	205½	Finsbury 'A'	221	..	2.2	..
300½	162½	Fine Art Dvlpt	280½	+ 3	1.5	..
28½	21	Fine Art Wts	24½	+ 1½	..	..
458	375½	Fleming Aman	454	+ 1	0.8	..
67	66	Fleming Chinese	66	- ½	0.7	..
34	24½	Fleming Ch Wrc	28	- ½	..	..
352½	280½	Fleming Claver	348	- 1½	2.4	45.5
450	381	Fleming Guard	438	- 2	1.1	..
142½	113	Fleming Eur Mds	139½	+ ½	0.2	..
263	227½	Fleming Eqty	245	..	2.7	31.0
293½	253½	Fleming F East	263	+ 1	0.6	..
423½	391½	Fleming Fledg	393	+ ½	0.6	..
110½	103½	Fleming Ing Inc†	109	..	11.0	11.2
162	117	Fleming Inc Cap	161	+ ½	..	..
15	11½	Fleming Jap Wts	14½	..	..	..
207½	167½	Fleming Japan	205	+ ½	..	..
384½	305½	Fleming Merc†	365½	- 1½	3.1	33.3
114½	102½	Fleming Nat Res	104½	..	0.6	..
364½	321½	Fleming Oversea	361½	- ½	1.6	74.5
169½	139½	Fleming Smlr Co	147½	- ½	3.8	31.1
164½	147½	Foreign & Col	161	- ½	1.8	59.3
97½	91½	F&C Inc Gwth†	97	..	4.7	..
114	86	F&C Emp Mkts	113½	+ 1	..	..
149½	123	F&C Enterprise	147	- 2	0.0	49.2
344½	295½	F&C Eurotrst	335½	- ½	0.5	..
158½	133½	F&C Geminor†	154½	..	0.3	..
170	145½	F&C Ldn Inc†	170	+ ½	1.4	..
149½	142½	F&C PEPT	145	..	3.5	33.7
185½	166½	F&C Smaller†	175	+ ½	1.9	..
147½	122½	F&C US Smlr	145½	..	..	..
129½	97½	Gartmore	126½	+ ½	12.1	..
87½	60½	Gemfields Gp	85	- 1	..	..
70½	40½	Fund Dual Cp	68½	..	..	..
24	11	Fulcrum Cap	23½	..	..	..
29	21½	Fulcrum Inc	24½	..	4.0	..
182	175½	Gartmore Pac	181½	- ½	..	..
259½	245½	Gartmore Bal	257½	..	4.4	..
263	234	Gartmore Intl	262	..	2.0	..
230½	190½	Gartmore Euro	222	- ½	0.0	..
134½	117½	Gartmore Smcl	135½	+ ½	13.3	..
371½	319½	Gt more Smlr Cos†	338½	..	2.1	63.0
50½	37½	Guard Inc Ord	47½	..	11.4	..
50½	37½	Guard Inc Inc	47½	..	11.5	..
222½	183½	Gt Cons Cap	225	- 3	..	..
120	100	Gt Japan	120	..	10.9	99
135	103½	German Inv	131½	..	0.5	..
266½	218½	Gim Am Sm Cos	236	..	0.3	..
115	92½	Gov Emg Mkts	108½	+ ½	0.3	..
207½	157½	Gowkthr Smlr	187	+ 1	..	..
91	80	Gov Glob Smlr	91	+ 9½	..	..
85½	71½	Growth High Inc†	78	..	9.0	13.5
173½	153½	Growth Dnamtl†	170	+ ½	0.5	..
369½	339½	Gtwnt Strategic†	349½	- 1½	2.6	41.5
12½	9	Gresham House	12½	..	..	2.3
123½	106½	GT Inc Growth†	114½	..	3.6	19.3
223½	188½	GT Japan	219	+ 1	1.0	..
104½	92½	Gwin Pl Ex Inc	100½	..	9.3	12.4
54	44½	Henderson Am Cp	52½	..	..	..
107½	100½	Henderson Am Inc	104	..	9.4	13.6
22	16	Henderson Am Wt	20½	..	..	..
275	243	Hend Elec Gen	272	- 1½	1.7	58.7
492½	445	Hend Smaller	485½	..	1.9	67.5

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	+ or -	Yld %
For AIB Lex Credit (cont)				
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 221				
Gen Acc	750.00	798.50	-19.95	1.55
Growth Inc	531.91	565.00	-9.00	2.46
UK Growth Acc	520.02	553.20	-7.25	2.46
UK Income Acc	332.62	353.80	-4.70	3.42
Higher Inc Acc	913.56	971.30	-12.96	3.42
Hi Div Int Inc	479.33	509.53	-6.70	[illegible]
Lat Am Fixed Int Acc	429.30	456.40	+1.05	5.11
Euro Fixed Int Acc	34.04	36.22	+0.41	5.11
North America	255.20	459.62	-2.95	[illegible]
Europe	411.76	438.00	-3.42	0.79
Far East Inc	102.19	108.70	-1.32	2.15
Far Eastern Acc	106.43	113.20	-1.40	0.17
Pacific Inc	84.60	90.00	-0.74	4.67
Global Cons	113.80	119.70	+0.69	1.07
Balanced Acc	89.14	95.00	-0.57	3.12
Balanced Inc	63.90	67.96	-0.04	2.15
Japan Acc	43.76	46.56	+0.05	[illegible]
Pac Basin Acc	419.20	446.00	-1.90	0.89
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilt & Fixed Int	134.90	142.40	+0.40	1.50
High Inc Equity	205.00	214.20	-1.75	4.12
Worldwide Bond	258.00	274.20	-1.25	2.46
American Growth	454.80	483.70	+0.20	0.94
Asian Pacific	342.70	365.10	+1.60	0.46
Profit & Earnings	330.70	352.50	-2.16	2.76
Euro Capital Acc	213.30	227.70	+0.70	1.36
Extra Inc	43.32	45.17	+0.12	7.35
General	290.30	312.60	-3.00	2.34
Global Opp	76.93	83.07	+0.56	0.43
Japan	105.50	111.60	+0.63	[illegible]
Managed Inc	60.50	62.49	[illegible]	[illegible]
Mortgage	154.62	162.35	-0.13	7.77
US Emerging Cos	188.19	201.30	+2.00	[illegible]
Eurail	84.99	90.41	-0.56	1.81
International	142.80	152.30	+0.42	0.91
Dividend & Growth	73.59	79.24	+0.23	4.23
Global Gwth & Ser	76.38	81.47	+0.27	2.49
Latin America	85.40	94.84	+1.30	0.41
Capital Reserve	129.20	143.30	-0.10	4.68
ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0141 275 8500				
UK Gilt Growth	167.50	187.80	-1.70	7.17
Capital Income	141.50	152.40	-1.70	7.17
Extra Income	215.40	230.50	-1.90	6.15
Smaller Cos	109.00	114.60	-0.46	1.55
International	123.90	131.80	-1.30	1.35
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 229 0733				
UK Small Cos	247.63	257.60		
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	70.23	77.36	-0.01	
Emerging Mkts	79.43	92.99	-0.61	0.60
European	165.96	171.62	-1.60	
Euro Income #	92.66	98.53	-0.61	5.97
Far East Emg Eco	79.90	88.30	-0.29	0.46
Fixed Interest #	26.09	27.75		6.76
Hard Int Tst #	123.70	[illegible]		9.76
Japan	150.70	167.20	-1.30	
Latin American	74.67	77.46	-0.53	0.62
Pacific	67.91	69.65	-0.67	1.47
Property Share	65.49	69.75	-0.79	1.96
UK Emerging Cos	[illegible]	[illegible]	-0.32	1.26
UK Growth	61.55	64.10	-0.70	2.17
Abn World Fun #	87.77	93.38	-0.16	2.09
Finecal	95.00	87.30	-0.39	2.02
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	52.12	50.16	-0.02	7.19
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 258 5868				
Fund of Property #	101.61	108.30		5.76
ALLIANCE INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 950				
Amly Income	93.60	105.04	-0.85	2.07
Income Builder Inc	86.45	91.921	0.15	2.94
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
84 dig: 01793 610 366 Client dig: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	317.30	338.10	-1.30	2.74
Capital	562.60	601.60	-1.70	1.04
Balanced	920.20	983.60†	-2.40	2.48
Accumulator	1790.00	1913.00†	-6.00	1.63
Income Trusts				
American Income	73.52	78.410	-0.16	2.07
High Income	514.60	549.70	-1.20	3.98
Equity Income	291.50	311.40	-0.70	3.57
High Yield	303.10	330.40†	-1.00	3.64
Gilt Securities	35.57	37.950	+0.28	5.61
International Trusts				
Asian Spec Sits	251.20	267.70	+0.90	0.04
European Growth	63.26	67.500	+0.36	0.05
International	206.90	221.00†	-0.40	0.10
Japan	199.60	202.80	+1.50	
Pacific	427.00	456.40	-1.50	
Sects of America	672.50	716.10†	-00.40	0.11
Whole Asset Vol	60.14	64.280	+0.42	0.82
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	716.70	766.10†	-2.20	1.78
Conv & Gilt	54.14	57.870	-0.04	3.66
Smaller Cos	209.00	223.40	-1.30	1.02
2nd Smaller Cos	198.10	211.70	-1.30	0.73
Recovery	180.10	195.70†	-0.40	1.44
Mkt Mkr & Cnty	150.60	170.60†	-0.70	0.18
Gross Earnings	470.60	500.40†	-1.40	0.35
Technology	246.40	263.30†	+0.50	
UK Special Sits	640.40	684.50	-2.50	1.57
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01253 326 911				
Cricket Dist Pens	131.00	136.10		
Foundlo Pens Pens	77.08	80.89		
For BSI-Thornhill see Thornhill				
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
America	398.80	425.30	+3.50	
Bond	122.80	129.20	+0.50	6.42
Bnt Grth Cos	114.70	122.80	+0.41	1.03
Dom S Gen #	67.51	71.821	-0.57	5.38
Europe	329.90	350.10	+1.50	0.10
Euro Smlr Cos	127.60	135.80	+0.10	0.31
Income Gwth	389.20	414.00†	-2.30	4.56
Japan	320.70	342.40†	+3.00	
Latin American	111.40	118.50	+0.90	0.54
Pacific	125.20	133.20	-1.00	0.49
UK Smlr Cos	59.65	63.46	-0.37	1.26
Japan Fd	640.00	628.00	+4.30	
Mngd Fd	221.80	235.50	-1.60	2.60
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 489 8873				
Bnk & Dscvr	418.70	442.80		0.80
Capital Gwth	149.50	157.10		2.56
Wrldw Opps	346.30	260.50		0.84
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
0181 522 4000				
Balanced Trusts				
Gwth & Inc Inc	472.60	502.70†	-6.70	1.98
European Bd Inc	99.59	103.20	+0.10	5.93
Exempt	92.84	98.76†	-0.91	2.52
500	510.20	548.60	-1.90	2.06
General	360.60	383.60	-3.30	2.11
Property	259.10	278.10†		5.43
Trustee	256.98	273.20	-3.40	2.06
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.80	100.80		5.68
Distribution 6+4	118.30	118.80†	-1.00	5.77
Extra Income #	152.60	162.80	-1.40	4.44
Gilt & Fxd Int	60.15	62.04†	+0.07	7.58
Income #	649.10	692.40	-6.30	4.36
Income Builder #	74.53	79.27	-0.71	5
Intl Income	79.72	84.81	-0.16	1.60
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	159.50	169.60	-1.50	1.57
FTSE 100	116.60	123.10†	-1.40	2.29
Leisure	194.30	196.60	-0.50	1.61
Recovery	553.30	590.20	-5.50	2.15
Smlr Cos Inc	58.69	64.73	-0.05	2.17
Special Cos	456.50	486.10	-4.90	1.86
Growth Trust - Overseas				
America	205.00	216.90†	-0.30	0.26
F East Gwth Acc	326.38	347.10	-4.00	0.39
Far East Gwth	193.30	205.60†	-1.10	0.39
Euro Gwth Inc	215.40	228.00	+3.10	0.79
-do- Accum	234.30	247.90	+3.30	0.73
Japan	129.50	137.10	+0.70	
-do- Accum	131.00	138.70	+0.80	
Japan Spec Sits	61.28	65.02†	+0.26	
Worldwide	217.10	230.50	+0.10	0.62
BARING FUND MANGERS LTD				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	157.20	166.00	-0.70	
Asnc Smlr Cos	153.10	163.60	+2.30	
Convertibles	82.55	86.70	-0.25	5.30
Eastern	307.50	325.20	+0.20	0.30
Equity Income #	110.10	117.60†	-2.70	4.20
European Growth	411.50	437.40†	+3.80	0.80
Europe	414.00	441.40†	+0.90	0.80
Gilt/Fixd Growth	102.00	108.00	+0.80	0.50
Global Bond	72.32	76.04	+0.20	6.20
Global Growth	158.50	168.30	-0.20	0.40
Japan Growth	185.80	197.30	+2.60	
Japan Smlr Cos	455.60	132.90	-1.20	4.56
Japan Sunrise	5.55	58.11	+0.08	
Pacific Inc	161.30	172.00	-0.90	2.00
Pacific Growth	307.60	328.00	-1.70	2.00
UK Growth	120.30	125.00	-2.10	3.00
UK Smaller Cos	105.50	114.30†	-0.50	1.90
Select Managers	94.30	101.00	-0.30	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	103.00	109.60	+2.00	
Special Opps Inc	71.69	78.27	+1.42	
BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD				
0141 223 6000				
Balanced Growth	182.52	169.30	-3.29	1.45
-do- Accum	190.70	198.13	-4.44	1.45
Smaller Cos	175.42	187.73†	-0.71	0.41
Higher Yield #	62.58	65.19	-0.51	3.99
American Gth Inc	116.34	121.00	+0.07	
European Growth	185.06	192.77	+2.68	
Europe Growth	189.02	196.89	+2.74	
Gilt & Fixed Int	56.37	61.85	+0.07	1.29
Global Bond	61.50	64.51	+0.57	1.20
Int Spec Opps	185.45	193.16	+0.57	
Pacific Gth	171.29	178.41	-1.89	
UK General #	111.31	115.95	-1.16	2.95
-do- Accum #	120.78	125.81	-1.26	2.95
Japan	54.48	56.75	+0.03	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	102.65	106.37†	-0.04	8.06
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 600 7216				
Stpd Dated Gilt	64.70	65.53	+0.06	6.41
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 837 5060				
Emtrust	196.70	207.00†	-0.70	1.96
UK Growth	238.20	250.70	-2.90	2.15
UK Income	163.20	171.80	-1.20	4.18
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD				
01707 852 100				
Can Gen Dist	254.70	269.90	-3.30	1.47
-do- Income Dist	136.80	144.90†	-2.00	3.45
-do- Accum	456.00	482.30†	-6.50	3.45
Gilt & Fixd Int	43.04	44.18	+0.14	6.16
Growth Units	285.60	304.50	-4.70	1.92
Bond	181.30	188.70	+0.10	6.80
Intl Growth	254.00	270.30†	+1.70	0.17
North American	293.40	311.70	+0.50	0.08
Far East	320.90	343.20	-0.90	0.56
UK Smaller Cos	244.50	261.30†	-1.50	1.88
European	108.40	112.00	+1.50	0.45
Japanese Growth	42.30	44.82	+0.41	
High Income	241.00	257.50	-4.00	3.95
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455				
American & Gen	243.10	257.70	+0.40	
European Inc	108.20	115.20	+0.89	0.33
Smaller Cos (4-7)	114.10	121.40	-0.70	1.48
Growth	604.60	643.20	-9.30	1.94
Income & Growth #	510.90	543.60	-5.60	3.57
-do- Accum #	782.20	833.30	-8.80	3.57
Japan & Gen	62.71	66.44	+0.80	
Hallmark Gwth	113.42	113.98	-16.00	1.65
-do- Accum	116.71	117.41	-20.00	1.85
Special Sits	138.60	148.60	-2.00	1.94
High Yield	116.36	116.87†	-2.00	4.07
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0120				
Cazenove Portfolio	108.25	116.47	-0.67	2.09
American Portfolio	148.17	148.64†	-0.43	0.98
European Portfolio	152.79	162.48	+1.14	0.55
High Income	59.47	52.619	+0.22	7.13
Japanese Portfolio	62.68	68.50†	-0.75	
CGE CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fd Inc	85.17	9.6.00		3.82
Inv Fd Acc	553.17	59.53		
Fixd Int Cos Inc	164.75	161.43		7.00
Fixd Int Cos Acc	166.71	161.83		
CGE CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Prvt Bond Inc	85.20	87.02		3.98
Prvt Bond Acc	140.43	147.08		
Fixd Int Inc	130.65	133.57		8.80
Fixd Int Acc	137.96	143.36		
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 407 5866				
Convertibles	87.16	91.76		4.46
Financial Trust	40.05	42.42		
Cons Fin Accum	197.36	207.79		0.41
Gilt Fin Accum	66.73	70.02		1.83
Gilt Fin Inc	54.95	59.63†		0.06
Hnrl Wide Eqs	45.36	50.07		2.40
Industry Bnd Cos	145.82	153.72		
Ldr Cos Gen Inc	82.02	85.77		7.25
Stock Market	64.91	69.49†	0.45	0.47
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 211 0771 Admin 01277 227 300				
Hennyson Markets	61.05	65.77	+0.04	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 777 333				
American Gwth	87.97	93.68	+0.41	
Dragon Growth	16.19	81.47	-0.45	0.24
Equity High Inc	109.50	116.42†	-1.19	3.55
-do- Accum	148.91	157.64	-1.17	3.55
Extra Income Inc	17.24	18.98	+0.06	1.80
Extra Income Acc	31.19	33.82	+0.06	1.80
European Gwth	72.52	76.74	+0.80	0.92
Fixed Int	50.60	54.96	+0.07	
General Fund	119.55	125.15	+1.48	2.61
Japan Growth	44.55	47.39	+0.53	
Pacific Gwth	29.63	29.99	-0.77	2.05
Pacific Inc	29.42	30.54†	-0.27	1.79
Sm Cos Inc	29.07	35.22	-0.79	1.35
Sm Cos Acc	30.73	37.99	-0.25	5.80
Special Sits	51.66	55.31	0.41	2.72
UK & Overseas	16.30	19.27	+0.14	0.59
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD				
01634 899 000				
Balanced	96.95	99.93	-0.46	3.89
Capital	91.12	94.91	-0.52	2.32
High Income	53.81	56.09†	+0.05	6.60
Top 50	63.81	66.86	-1.11	2.42
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRUDENTIAL PORTFOLIO UNIT FUNDS				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	207.20	214.40	-2.35	4.28
Long Gilt	18.74	20.19	+0.19	5.81
Managed Inc Fnd	53.97	55.59	+0.02	0.00
Reference Share	59.67	62.79	0.04	7.38
Conservative				
High Yield	123.86	133.65	-1.49	5.95
Balanced Fund	81.84	85.26	-0.26	2.60
Cr Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	5.50	56.72	-0.29	1.01
-do- Accum	63.94	66.65	-0.46	1.70
Uk & General	106.81	112.42	-1.46	2.68
-do- Accum	143.06	149.04	-1.92	2.68
Uk Growth	215.06	224.17	-3.40	1.25
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	241.64	251.74	+3.65	0.58
Far Eastern Gwth	172.74	183.14	-0.73	0.02
Global Bond	73.90	78.88	+0.17	0.45
Japan Growth	108.22	112.85	+1.02	
North Amer Gwth	275.71	287.23	-0.07	
Overall Growth	87.92	91.59	-0.52	0.25
Worldwide Growth	79.73	87.54	+0.05	
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PRT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.16	92.16	+0.02	5.71
Homemaker Fund	98.12	104.39	0.73	2.07
Option Fund	169.34	180.17	2.05	2.00
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Consistent Ut	38.50	41.12		3.84
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 258				
Growth	182.10	204.40†	-2.40	1.62
Income	77.70	80.06	-1.43	4.27
European	84.90	90.21	+0.16	0.25
Recovery	186.00	197.90	-1.50	2.40
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	1106.20	1123.10		3.11
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 680 370				
Fellowship Fd	115.20	123.00	-0.80	1.17
Income #	300.00	320.00†	-4.00	4.30
-do- Accum #	318.70	370.40	-11.00	4.30
Smaller Cos	234.30	249.30	-0.80	0.96
-do- Accum	291.90	310.50	-1.00	0.96
Gilt Portfolio	106.80	113.60	-1.30	1.26
High Inc Port #	88.72	94.38	-1.19	4.42
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 470 1694				
Global Sm Cos	1753.50	1786.40		
UK Small Cos	2279.10	2380.50		2.88
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	343.60	350.70†		3.14
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	190.80	202.90†	-2.20	1.59
UK High Inc Inc	198.60	211.20†	-2.30	3.37
-do- Accum	276.80	294.40†	-3.30	3.37
UK Prof & Fl Inc	60.67	64.43†	+0.15	5.74
Eurosmall Opps	112.80	120.00†	-0.80	0.83
UK Smlr Cos #	74.47	79.22	-0.38	0.86
Extra Income Inc	52.23	55.53	+0.11	6.57
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 526				
Convertibles #	23.38	24.84†	-0.13	5.64
Enterprise	116.20	120.20†		2.03
Equity Income #	151.90	161.40†	-2.10	3.97
European	70.78	74.90	+0.22	
Financial	65.45	69.54	-0.56	1.44
Growth & Inc #	311.00	330.40	-4.00	2.65
High Dist #	197.10	203.00†	-2.30	4.19
International	457.10	485.70	-1.70	0.21
Intl Cap Inc	115.80	123.00	-0.30	2.18
Latin American	38.74	41.16	+0.20	
Pacific	87.48	92.95	-0.91	
Prof High Inc	23.55	25.02	+0.13	7.19
Tokyo	204.10	215.90	+1.80	
UK Smaller Cos	256.80	272.90†	-1.10	1.10
Diversified Unit Trusts				
Japan Sm Cos	345.40	365.90	+1.80	
Nth Amer	484.70	511.60	-3.50	0.57
UK Inc & Gwth	274.60	290.00	-3.50	2.53
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
Bnl Director Dcps	128.34	137.261	-2.25	0.94
Growth Acc	298.92	319.93	+3.19	0.60
Income	626.34	667.05	+8.22	5.96
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7251				
Endurance Fd	248.10	263.90†		1.05
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01206 431 480				
Exempt	104.15	109.63	+0.78	1.56
Equal Tst Inc	51.25	53.95	+0.15	0.67
Far Eastern	217.74	334.46	-0.67	1.48
High Income	154.02	162.13†	-0.02	4.50
UK Index Trckng	59.34	62.46	-0.10	2.80
Intl Growth	154.11	162.22	-0.06	0.05
North American	169.12	178.02	+0.32	1.74
Pacific	160.46	168.90	-0.44	2.05
Smaller Cos	74.52	78.44	-0.38	2.55
Special Sits	97.72	102.86	-0.42	2.00
1st of Inv Tsts	236.38	248.82	-0.16	1.31
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	112.64	119.51†	-0.31	
Fd of Inv Tsts	57.16	60.65	-0.14	0.48
High Income #	41.52	44.02†	-0.05	11.35
Mgm & Gt Opps	50.13	53.00	+0.15	
Zero Preference	46.85	49.71		
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
01273 220 707				
Family Asset Int	107.20	114.00†		2.34
United Charities	343.90	365.80†		1.86
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Calldriver, Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00		5.80
Cash Fund				
Bond Funds	26.56	27.54	+0.07	5.31
Intl Bond	28.26	29.53†	-0.05	5.75
Smaller Inc				
Income Funds	28.40	29.80†	-0.12	5.17
High Income	145.40	154.60†	-1.60	3.88
Income Income	56.39	59.50	+0.25	2.27
UK Dir Gnh	34.50	37.11	-0.49	2.25
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	57.95	61.82	-0.06	
American	306.80	309.90	-0.30	
Asia Spec Sits	207.50	221.40†	+2.20	
Japan Smaller Cos	26.73	28.41	+0.21	
European	264.30	281.10	+2.10	0.48
European Opps	95.51	101.60	+0.80	0.59
Global Prm	35.33	38.63	+0.17	0.43
UK Growth	135.10	143.70	-1.30	1.36
Growth & Inc	199.40	212.10	-2.30	2.26
Intl PEP	54.27	57.71	-0.28	0.95
Japan Spec Sits	76.31	82.06	+0.75	
Japan	177.70	188.60	+1.60	
Managed Intl	402.40	427.20	+0.40	0.63
Moneybuilder	71.98	76.23	-0.04	
Recovery	66.53	70.74	-0.30	1.30
South E Asia	202.60	216.20	-2.00	0.89
Special Sits	800.70	851.40	-2.80	0.52
Specialist Funds				
Cash Access Units	119.40	119.40	+0.02	5.80
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 814 2780				
Balanced #	164.00	166.20		1.66
Finsbury Pnl Inc #	102.50	103.30†	-0.20	6.01
Cap Profile	181.70	189.30	-0.30	0.19
General Opps	156.90	158.30†		
Growth Inc	41.78	42.14†	-0.56	1.75
Private Portfolio	535.60	542.60		1.14
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Dlg 01277 880 366 Admin/Vnl 01277 880 350				
Euro Smlr Cos	163.30	173.50	+1.60	
High Income	23.06	24.51	-0.50	9.18
Japan Smlr Cos	16.03	17.19	+0.08	
UK Smaller Cos	468.80	499.50	+5.80	
For Foster & Braithwaite see Quilter				
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
Enq 0171 350 6500 Dealing 0345 775511				
American Growth	83.70	88.99	-0.10	
-do- Accum	83.70	88.99	-0.10	
Asset Smlr Cos	678.60	725.70	+7.80	
-do- Accum	693.20	741.40	+8.00	
Capital Tst	414.40	440.80	-10.00	1.26
-do- Accum	611.90	651.00	-15.10	1.26
Cont Smlr Cos	63.19	67.58†	+0.18	0.97
-do- Accum	67.04	72.54†	+0.19	0.97
Convertible	146.30	155.60	-0.50	5.17
-do- Accum	324.10	344.80	-1.80	5.17
Emerging Markets	76.28	81.50	+0.43	0.54
-do- Accum	76.88	82.15	+0.43	0.54
European	168.80	178.80†	+1.70	0.58
-do- Accum	179.40	190.00†	+1.70	0.50
Extra Income	423.30	450.30	-4.40	4.02
-do- Accum	682.40	726.00	-7.20	4.02
Financial	201.80	214.70†	+0.10	0.46
-do- Accum	218.20	230.00†	+0.10	0.46
Gilt Trust	63.37	65.35	+0.11	7.04
-do- Accum	101.60	104.70	+0.20	7.04
Health Fund Inc	265.00	283.10†	+3.20	
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
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UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	66.06	69.41	-0.91	1.97
Practical Inv Inc #	134.30	143.64†	-0.27	3.26
-do- Accum #	326.41	349.10†	-0.66	3.26
UK Index	201.40	215.40†	-0.40	2.17
UK Smaller Cos	231.45	247.54	-1.06	0.30
Income Funds				
Euro Yield	35.45	36.37	0.01	6.94
High Income	37.93	40.46†	0.34	4.29
UK Growth & Inc	177.24	189.37	-1.90	2.52
Global Bond	28.06	29.88†	+0.07	4.78
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	52.34	56.68	+0.58	
Global Managed	157.17	167.56	+0.70	1.16
Gold & Intl Res	106.56	116.10†	+1.00	2.55
Global Utilities	166.48	176.32	+0.38	0.80
Overseas Funds				
American	223.03	236.22†	+0.55	0.51
European	157.55	168.69	+0.65	0.48
Euro Sel Opps	240.50	255.59	+1.94	
Asia Emerging	177.27	188.61	+1.51	
Hong Kong	219.34	234.26	-2.79	0.73
Japan	211.74	224.52	-2.45	
Pacific Growth	237.98	255.42†	-0.20	
Eastpoint Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	282.10	282.10	-1.67	1.74
Long Term Bal	299.98	299.98	-1.40	2.75
Med Term Bal	244.63	244.63	-0.64	2.55
Int Equity	334.17	334.17	-4.18	2.28
UK Emerging Cos	188.00	188.00†	-0.90	0.08
American	379.75	379.75	-0.44	0.34
Japan	124.34	124.34	+1.32	
European	486.65	486.65	+5.97	0.73
Inter United Gilt	191.87	191.87	+1.03	2.67
Fixed Interest	189.65	189.65†	+0.95	7.04
Asia Emergng	391.15	391.15	+2.61	
Pacific	234.02	234.02†	-0.03	0.88
Emerging Mkts	142.72	142.72	+1.58	0.02
Index Strat Japan	130.39	130.39	-1.07	1.14
-do- Pacific Rim	207.08	207.08	-7.09	1.14
-do- Cont European	216.73	216.73	+2.87	1.26
Index Strat USA	226.27	226.27

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LONDON PROPERTY

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Share of Freehold £650,000

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Office: 0171 736 5925

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no agents please
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WANDSWORTH COMMON
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SOUTH OF THE THAMES

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WC1 3 bed conv flat. Nr Kings X. GCH. Shr of Freehold. £135,000 Sanbury & Ball 0171 833 4466.

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KENSINGTON & CHELSEA

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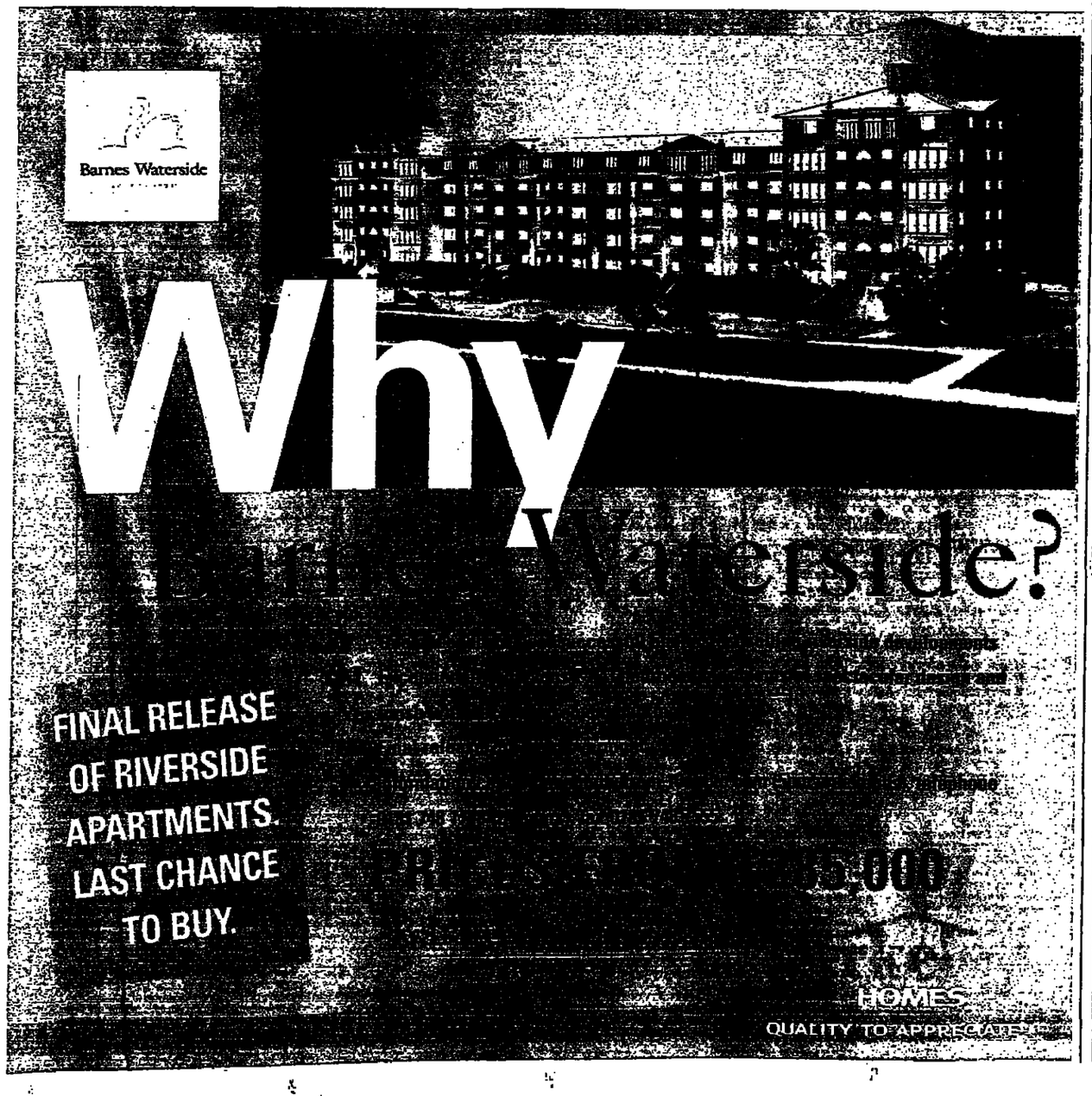

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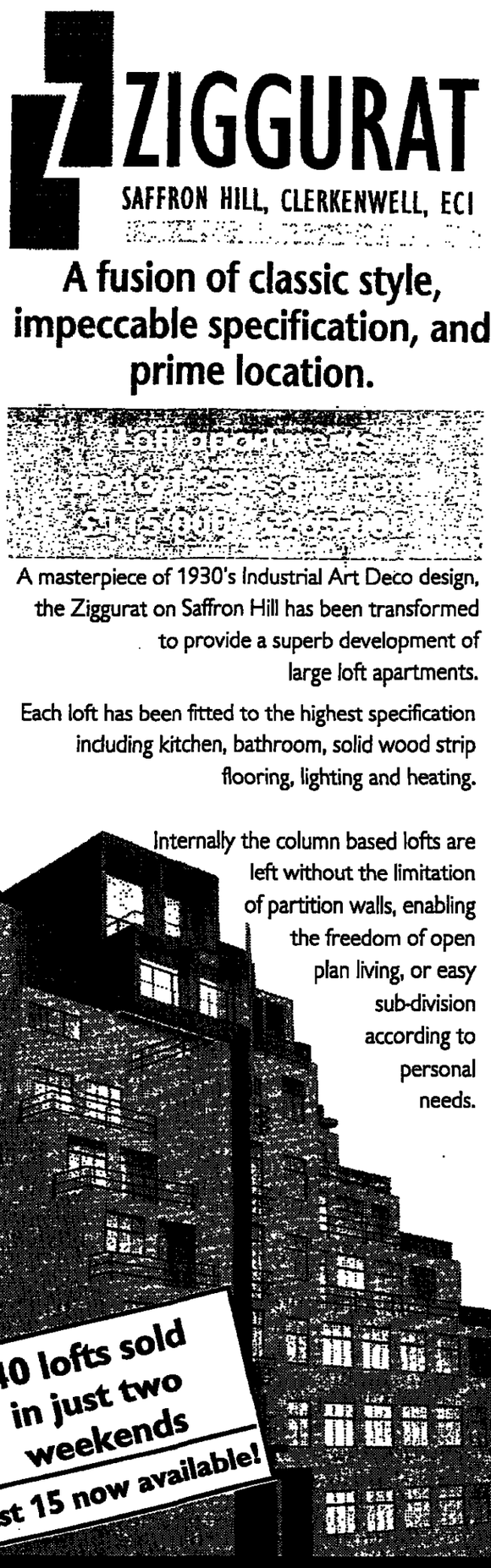

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How to make a small fortune

A wide choice exists for those wanting a rural lifestyle which involves running a business, reports **Diana Wildman**

More and more people are opting out of the rat race and many of them are investing in a rural lifestyle which comes complete with its own income.

Some have chosen early retirement now that their offspring have fled the nest, while others may have inherited a lump sum or received a redundancy payoff. But anyone seeking such a lifestyle should take professional, independent financial and legal advice before committing themselves and exchanging contracts.

Running a business, however small, requires commitment, and the working day is invariably long. The differential between gross income and net profit is of prime importance. But, for the intrepid, the choice of opportunities is wide, and many seem reasonably priced.

Some people dream of serving cream teas in the Devon sunshine from their own thatched cottage. The aptly named Rose Cottage Tea Garden near Torquay is expected to attract a great deal of interest. But a potential purchaser could be put off by the fact that it trades seven days a week for seven months of the year.

In the pretty village of Cockington, the Grade II, pink-washed, thatched cottage benefits from a large catchment area through south Devon and is on the market for £385,000 through Robert Kinsman of Chesterton's Exeter office (01392 255441).

He says: "There are more than two acres of gardens, plus a patio trading area with a marquee and catering facilities. The landscaped gardens have a *pétanque* pitch, croquet lawn, fountains and a gift shop. The private accommodation, which includes four bedrooms and three reception rooms, is housed within the cottage and was refurbished two years ago.

"The year ending April 30, 1996, showed a turnover of £110,000, giving a net profit of £40,814. The projected turnover for the year ending April 30, 1997, will be more than £130,000 following an extremely busy trading year. The current owners of Rose Cottage carry out little advertising and rely heavily on word of mouth."

For those who yearn to re-create a slice of corner-shop living, a small village shop in Willersey, set within a pretty Cotswold stone four-bedroom house, is for sale through the office of Hamptons in Broadway, Worcestershire, at £179,950 (01386 852205).

Willersey Stores serves this thriving north Cotswold village and acts as a village shop and newsagents. The current owners wish to retire but have built the business up to be run by an active couple. The trading figures are available for inspection at Hamptons.

> 'Some people dream of serving cream teas in Devon'

The house has three reception rooms and a conservatory, which leads to a partially walled, well-stocked rear garden. The shop is approached from the village footpath and has a stone flagged floor.

Cornish agent Miller & Son (01579 344401) seeks £275,000 for Merrymeet Vineyard near Liskeard. The property is set in ten acres, two-and-a-half of which are given over to the vineyard and winery. Though wine is not being produced, the agent says it has been successfully made in the past.

There are, however, two holiday cottages which were completed in 1991, each of which is fully furnished and equipped to accommodate two people. Planning permission exists for the building of a further eight letting units and, if these are built, the income potential, according to the agent, is about £60,000 per annum, excluding the vineyard.

The remainder of the land is woodland, grass and shrubland, and the small estate is subject to an agricultural occupancy condition. The modern main house is built in Cornish stone and has a slate roof. There are four bedrooms, three bathrooms and three reception rooms.

The artistically inclined may prefer to consider a small antiques market, complete with a two-bedroom flat, which is for sale in the West Sussex town of Midhurst for £250,000. Established in 1974, the Curfew Antiques Centre was started by the late Irene Brindle-Wood, who converted an early 18th-century Sussex barn in the old town centre so successfully that the building has since been listed Grade II. The L-shaped building is set around a courtyard called Curfew Garden Court.

The market on the ground floor was originally stabling; the first floor was once a carpenter's shop, and the early 18th-century-style windows have been retained. The flat is approached by an external staircase, and an extension which used to house a hoist is now a kitchen. Fourteen dealers — some of whom have been operating there for years — sell a variety of antiques. The market is open six days a week.

The flat has recently been refurbished and boasts sweeping views over Cowdray Park to the North Downs. There is even private parking for three cars which is important in the busy market town. The local agent, King & Chasemore (01730 812456), has trading details and the premises could be adapted to other purposes subject to planning consent.

A more conventional purchase would be a detached village residence called Clarets in the small hamlet of Duton Hill in Essex, three miles from Great Dunmow. The attractive, half-timbered house is for sale through Mullucks Wells (01279 755400) in Bishop's Stortford for £179,000. Not only is this a successful B&B establishment, but it also has a post office counter open for 15 hours each week. The front door leads to the tiny post office and through to the main body of the house, which has two reception rooms and three bedrooms.

There is an annexe designed to be run as a B&B business, which has a separate front door. There are two self-contained bedroom suites with ensuite bathrooms and television. The agent, Tony Mullucks, will supply business details.

Willersey Stores, in the Cotswolds, a pretty four-bedroom house and village store, is for sale through Hamptons

PROPERTY BRIEFING

THE CRUNDELS, an award-winning vineyard in Astley, Worcestershire, is for sale through the Worcester office of Humberts at a guide price of £325,000. The house was built in 1964 and has a separate flat used as a holiday let. There are also outbuildings including former stables, a tennis court and a swimming pool. The vineyard, of about five acres, was created in 1979.

☐ A NURSERY and licensed cattery (for 35 cats) is for sale near Wisborough Green, West Sussex, at a guide price of £350,000, through the Pulborough office of Guy Leonard & Co in association with Humberts. The present owners are retiring but have successfully been trading at the property since 1972.

☐ WHOEVER buys Ludbrook Farm, near Ivybridge in south Devon, will never have to fantasise about "the one that got away". The property, which is being sold through Campbell Nicol Simpson at £325,000 for the freehold, is a restocking trout farm and a breeding and rearing centre for Koi carp. In addition to a modern four-bedroom house, there are principal lakes, rearing ponds and a modern shop from which fish can be sold directly to the public.

☐ KNIGHT FRANK is offering Lower Hellington Farm at Buckland Monochorum, Plymouth, Devon, at a guide price of £250,000. The owner was a breeder of Arab horses during the early 1980s and the farm is now offered for sale with a Georgian farmhouse, now in need of modernisation, and extensive buildings and stabling providing the opportunity for a stud farm or other equestrian activity to be re-established.

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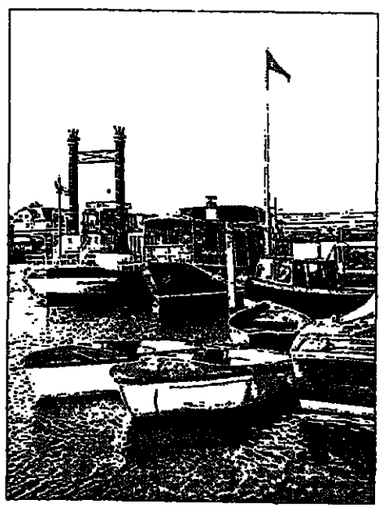

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■ HERITAGE

Desecration or revelation? William the Conqueror's castle gets a concrete makeover

■ FILM

Gay backstage life in a dance company is the subject of Martin Sherman's *Alive and Kicking*

THE TIMES ARTS

■ RISING STAR

At 16, Dorry Hughes is fast advancing on the path to becoming a composer

■ TOMORROW

Luc Besson's futuristic epic *The Fifth Element* reviewed, along with the week's other big releases

HERITAGE: A furious dispute has erupted over an addition to a medieval castle in Normandy. **Marcus Binney** reports

William the concreter

It is the most controversial restoration of the decade. William the Conqueror's mighty castle at Falaise in Normandy has a new barbican in dark concrete and stainless steel, and a roof of whitest Teflon. If Jocelyn Stevens had done such a thing to a Norman keep in the care of English Heritage, his head would have been demanded on a platter by the president of the Society of Antiquaries — and delivered. Today the keep at Falaise could be a set for *Star Wars*, with Darth Vader as its new liege lord.

French intellectuals are incensed. The *architecte-en-chef* entrusted with the works, Bruno Decaris, I was told, had been transferred from Calvados to new duties in Burgundy. The society Aimez Falaise has issued proceedings against him for not obtaining planning permission for the works; it seems that the Commission supérieure des monuments historiques thought it was exempt from such trifles.

> ‘The authorities should stand by their architect’

Our very own Edward Impey, from the Tower of London, has sallied resoundingly into the fray, savaging Decaris for building a "*grosses Blockhaus*" and treating the keep not as an historic monument but as "a means of personal expression", and introducing glass and steel "airport style" inside.

Falaise is one of the great succession of near-impregnable stone donjons or keeps erected by the Conqueror and his immediate successors to secure their Norman and English territories. The donjon at Falaise was actually built in 1123 by William's younger son Henry I of England, within his father's fortified enceinte.

Since Henry IV of France took the castle in 1590, the keep has stood a gutted shell, with bare walls ascending to the sky, latterly inaccessible to all. Decaris's approach is a simple one — to recreate the main internal spaces of the Norman keep, using visibly modern materials. The walls of these Norman keeps were so massively thick that at upper levels they were threaded through with passages and stairs. Often you can only glimpse these from the ground. At Falaise you now have the run of them.

According to Charles Bowden, the English guide working at the castle, the formidable surprise of the new interior enthrals many visitors. Step through the high-level Norman doorway and you are walking on glass. Adults inch forward. Children jump. A transparent modern-day parquet *à la française* dramatically reveals how high above the ground the great Norman hall stood.

Decaris explains: "The floors had disappeared, the whole structure was difficult to understand." He felt it was important to put back a roof, so the medieval windows play their proper role, with deep reveals glowing as a shaft of sun shines through. The new lightweight roof is a fibreglass structure covered in Teflon. "I showed the model to a French engineer who said it couldn't be done." So Decaris went to the late Peter Rice (the RIBA gold medallist), who worked it out in a trice.

Decaris wanted to express the keep's dual role as fortress and palace. "I did this with materials — grey for the defensive elements and blue for the inside of the room. It had to be done in an abstract way, for we knew no details and I did not want to copy or invent," he says.

Window shutters and large hinges are traditionally proportioned but in galvanised steel. The windows are not leaded lights, but large sheets of clear glass etched with a simple geometric pattern. A reconstructed spiral staircase now has a plain tubular bronze handrail. Lamps on the stairs are shaped like flaming torches but inset with electric bulbs.

In the slit windows, he has enraged purists by introducing a simple metal gauze. "We had a problem with birds. Without the gauze the windows would have been filthy in a few weeks."

One big innovation is underfloor heating, allowing the keep to be open and used for events all the year. "This last winter we had periods of minus 10C and the castle was very pleasant inside," he says.

The great French King Philip Augustus, who took Falaise in 1204, five years after the death of his arch-rival Richard the Lionheart, added a new, still higher defensive circular tower beside the keep. This was clearly a place of last resort as it had no independent outside access.

Thanks to Decaris you now ascend all the way to the top. He has added a new parapet above the machicolations. "It's two metres high as I did not want the heads of the public to be visible from below, so we have made small portholes to open up the view," he says.

Look down between the machicolations, and yet again you are standing on air — on a metal grille, 100ft or more above the ground, ready to rain missiles or boiling oil on the attackers below.

The fiercest criticism centres on the new, dark grey barbican or *avant-corps*. Decaris came to study Norman keeps in England, notably Castle Rising. "Barbicans were complicated internally, intended to disorientate an attacker. I have designed it to give a sense of its defensive purpose," he says.

In 1985 he was asked by the then Mayor of Falaise to produce "a very strong project". In the Mairie the town clerk told me that he hoped that the keep would do for Falaise what the pyramid has done for the Louvre. Like it or not, Decaris has been true to his brief.

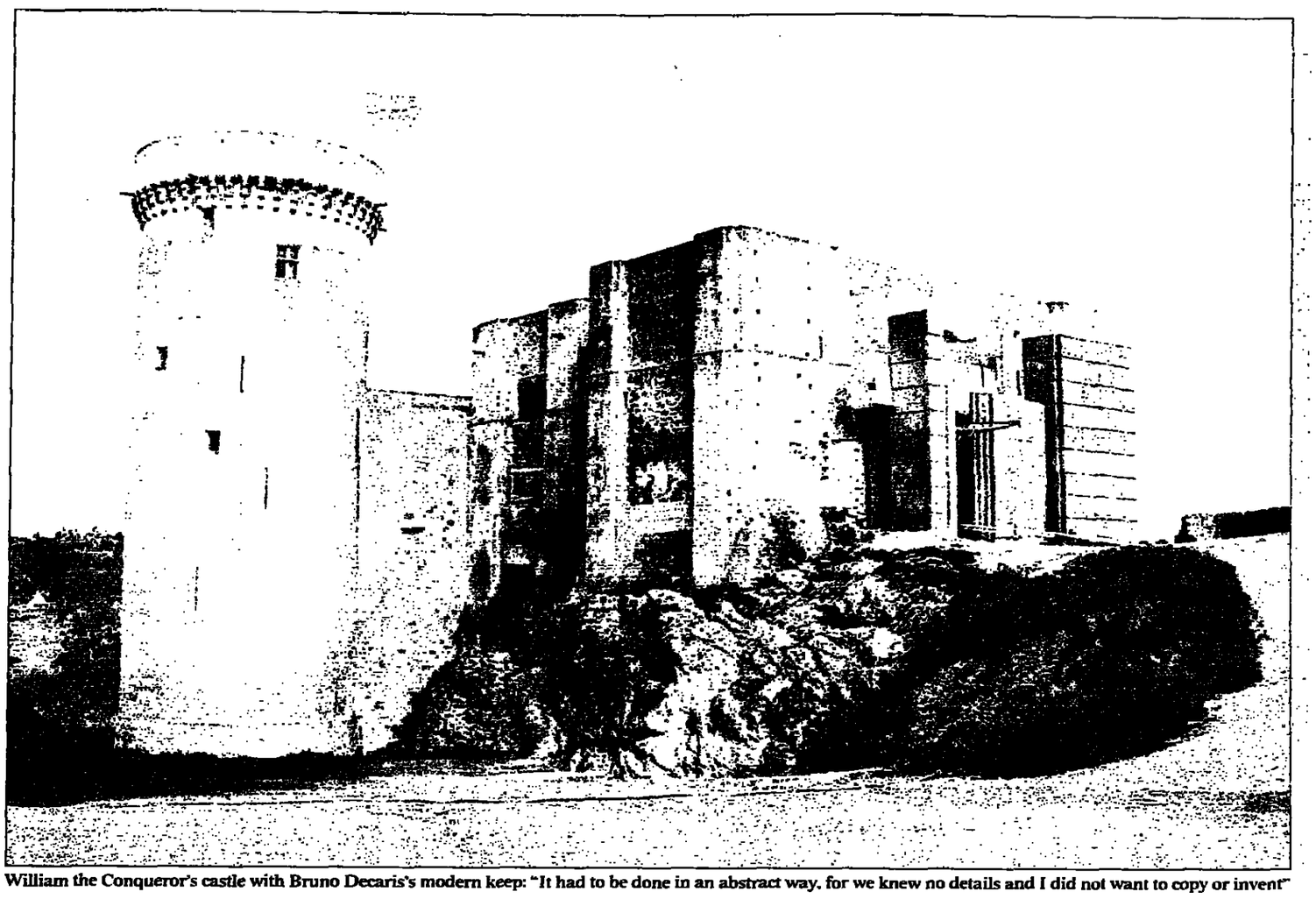
I think the authorities in Paris should have the guts to stand by their architect and finish the job properly. The dark concrete is actually the same tone as the weathered stone at the base of the keep.

Instead panic has put a halt on all work. The new drawbridge (galvanised steel of course) is not working and is pathetically weighted down with a rough concrete block. The lift for the disabled, designed to fit within the barbican, has yet to be installed. Because the site has not been tidied up, visitors are bringing in gravel and grit on their shoes and scratching the clear glass floor.

Decaris had the foresight to put a sacrificial glass sheet over the thicker, bullet-proof glass below, but then to allow the new surface to be damaged is sheer sloppiness.

This is a restoration (the French refer more appropriately to an "*intervention*") which opens a new door on the display of ancient sites. It brings hope for magnificent donjons such as Beaugency on the Loire, where the key has seemingly been thrown away.

Mistakes have been made at Falaise, notably blasting a horrific new emergency exit through the lower walls to comply with safety regulations. But taken as a whole, this is not caprice but a sincere, pioneering and intensely provoking exercise, which turns a frozen antiquity back into a major work of architecture which all can now experience at close quarters.



William the Conqueror's castle with Bruno Decaris's modern keep: "It had to be done in an abstract way, for we knew no details and I did not want to copy or invent"

Frames from a life lived on the hoof

FILM: **Christopher Bowen** on Martin Sherman's fascination with the world of dance

For a man who trades so successfully in the spoken word, the award-winning playwright Martin Sherman appears to be curiously obsessed by the mute world of dance. A Cuban dancer was the protagonist in an early Sherman script for the BBC, one of the leading characters in the 1979 *Bent* — his most famous play — is also a dancer, and in 1990 he celebrated the life of Isadora Duncan in *When She Danced*. On Friday *Alive and Kicking*, a film set in a contemporary British dance company and Sherman's first original screenplay, opens in London. It is enough to make you wonder if the writer's artistic bent did not take a wrong turn somewhere.

"I guess I am fascinated by dance," says Sherman. "And deep, deep down, maybe I once wanted to be a dancer. Though a large part of me is glad I'm not; it's such a difficult, short life. I know a lot of dancers, so I've lived through their lives, their pain, their happiness."

Born in Philadelphia, Sherman says he was "terribly spoilt" by the dance education he received as a young man in New York. "I grew up with Balanchine and New York City Ballet. I caught the last years of Balanchine's great personality dancers — Allegra Kent, Jacques d'Amboise, Voilette Verdy, Edward Villella — before a certain anonymity started to creep over the company."

So it is little wonder that Sherman "naturally gravitated" towards dancers when he began working in the theatre. "Interestingly, though," he says, "most of my friends are not famous dancers. They are people who suffer the sweat and pain without the obvious rewards of acclaim, which — bizarrely — they don't regret for a moment. I find that dedication fascinating."

Bizarre or not, it is a world which Sherman and director Nancy Meckler bring to the screen in *Alive and Kicking*, the story of Tonio, a flamboyant HIV-positive dancer (played by Jason Flemyng) who falls for Aids counsellor Jack (Antony Sher). Though the often turbulent relationship between the two men and the film's very positive approach to living with Aids lie at the heart of the piece, the largely convincing portrayal of life in a dance company also comes as a small revelation.

Camp followers: Antony Sher as Jack (left) and Jason Flemyng as Tonio in *Alive and Kicking*

After all, the world's film archives are not overburdened with telling backstage ballet biopics. From Moira Shearer in *The Red Shoes* and Fred Astaire in *Shall We Dance?*, to Anne Bancroft's ageing ballerina in *The Turning Point* and Joan Collins's man-eating ballet director in the appropriately entitled *Nutcracker*, film directors and screenwriters invariably seem to dust down the clichés when the cameras start rolling on a dance film.

Sherman will not be drawn on comparisons between *Alive and Kicking* and others of the genre, though he wonders why so few feature prominent gay characters. While he acknowledges that dance and ballet companies are a good deal straighter than most people outside the profession might imagine, "the other truth is there," he says.

"I may be criticised for presenting the cliché of the gay dancer. But if it's such a cliché, why hasn't it been filmed? For something that's supposed to be an oft-told tale, it's never been told in cinema."

Not so in *Alive and Kicking*. "Queers made my company," proclaims Dorothy Tutin's Luna, matriarchal founder of the film's fictitious ensemble (though since she is experiencing the onset of Alzheimer's, she cannot quite remember what they made it). But true to form, alternative sexualities remain well represented within the ranks of Ballet Luna.

The somewhat dated camp-ery of the backstage banter in the film might strike audiences as unrealistically "luvvie". Yet, according to members of the cast, many of whom were drawn from the dance world, the camp stereotype reflects reality.

"The college I trained at had a principal very much like Luna," says Aiden Waters, who plays Vincent, Tonio's partner in the film's closing dance, a steamy duet, circa 1950, entitled *Indian Summer*. "She was very camp and I think figures like that inspire flamboyant behaviour. Characters like her are dotted through the profession."

"It's always difficult to reflect the whole dance community," says another of the cast, the dancer Gary Lambert. "But I felt it was a pretty accurate picture of a certain type of company."

"One thing that certainly rings true is the sense of ensemble that we achieved through two weeks of rehearsing together," says Flemyng. "The whole film is pretty physical — people draping themselves over each other all the time, which is pretty much what it's like among friends in a dance company. A real rapport can exist. I know this sounds sickeningly cosy, but that was the world Nancy and Martin created with this company. It isn't something you can fake, and I think it shows."

● Alive and Kicking *opens on Friday*

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

DORRY HUGHES

Age: 16, and still studying piano and violin at the Yehudi Menuhin School.

Profession-elect: A composer in the making. Her *Nakuru*, a six-minute trio for two violins and piano, was premiered on Sunday at the Queen Elizabeth Hall as part of the BT Festival of Dance. "It's a sad, poignant piece, with the two violins intermingling and singing together, and the piano providing the texture. The choreographer gave it the title, because it reminded him of the flamingos on the African lake." Dorry was the page-turner on Sunday for her friends Sun Mi Chang and Marine Bkhian (violins) and Alexis White (piano).

Has she always composed? "Yes, right from the start, but I just used to make it up at the piano. Never wrote anything down until I had to for GCSEs! I still find the chords and the harmony by improvising at the piano." Her teacher, Malcolm Singer, liked the piece and sent it off to Focus on Dance, a group who had visited the Menuhin School.

What inspires her? "Often a poem. And the movement of human bodies in dance, which is more abstract."

Influences, mentors: Her father, Jim Hughes, who composes songs for musicals. Also Ravel and French chamber music, and Schubert.

What next? "I'd like to write more dance music. I'm working now on a new piece for string orchestra. Eventually I'd like to work in an ensemble, playing music for dance or the theatre."

What does she do in her time off? "I love reading 19th-century novels, especially George Eliot and the Brontës. And poetry. Oh, sorry, I've got to dash for French . . ."

HILARY FINCH

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■ OPERA

Despite its financial woes, English National Opera unveils a brave new season

■ MUSIC 1

At the Bath Festival the pianist Imogen Cooper essays a little cabaret français

THE TIMES ARTS

■ MUSIC 2

... and the explosive percussion music of Iannis Xenakis shakes the Guildhall

■ MUSIC 3

... while in London the virtuoso violinist Midori pushes her technique to the limit

Fun and games at the Coliseum

OPERA: **John Allison** previews the new season at English National Opera, and talks to the men behind it

Even the most entangled operatic plots are easier to follow than the latest backstage and boardroom scenarios at London's two opera houses. Inside the Royal Opera House, where the Arts Council's Mary Allen is to be installed as chief executive in place of Genista McIntosh, much deconstruction is still needed to get to the bottom of what looks like an Establishment stitch-up. Across WC2 at the Coliseum, English National Opera has for some time been threatening to come unstitched, and the announcement of next season's plans gives less than complete reassurance that the company is steering the right artistic course under Dennis Marks's general directorship.

"Announcement" is perhaps too strong a word for plans that yesterday plopped onto the doormats of ENO's subscribers and the press. The annual press conference at which plans are traditionally unveiled was for unknown reasons not called, giving rise to speculation about which uncomfortable questions the Marks regime was trying to avoid. Perhaps ENO simply burnt its fingers at the press briefing in January at which it outlined grandiose schemes for a new home — it plainly hadn't expected such a negative reaction — but there are undoubtedly other issues the management would rather not see aired. One must be the recent scrapping of a general percentage pay rise to staff, who are, unsurprisingly, said to be furious.

This *sotto voce* approach is all the stranger given that there *is* good news in the 1997-98 season. Eight of the 17 productions are new, and they include works that tend to be in the repertory more in theory than in practice. So although the emphasis is on "standard" operas, it is a little unfair to dismiss the season as almost all "repertory" when it includes new stagings of *Il trittico* (produced by Patrick Mason) and *The Tales of Hoffmann* (Graham Vick). Puccini's perfectly balanced triptych has not been seen complete in London for several decades, and Offenbach's masterpiece is being performed here for the first time from Michael Kaye's new critical edition. It's strongly cast, too, with John Tomlinson singing the four incarnations of evil.

The best news of all, that Paul Daniel is now poised to take up his position as music director, is curiously under-trumpeted. He comes with an impressive track record from Opera North, and sees the appointment as a return home. "I grew up with this company, it formed my idea of what good opera can be, and it's the blueprint I've taken elsewhere." If there are disagreements between him and Marks as to how the company should be run, he wasn't giving anything away at this joint Marks-Daniel interview.

> ‘Do I think arts funding should be run this way? No’

Daniel arrives after an 18-month period in which ENO has been without a music director. His predecessor was Sian Edwards, operatically inexperienced but a capable conductor who was used as a scapegoat during the upheavals that followed Marks's arrival. True, Marks himself inherited big artistic and financial headaches from the Powerhouse team — his predecessor Peter Jonas appeared towards the end to be operating a "scorched earth" policy — but he created several more of his own. He has adopted a bullish management style, and in interview paints a picture of a Coliseum in which there are no serious disputes, and of singers' agents who are always understanding when contracts are cancelled.

But one has to listen when Marks talks about what audiences want, because he has successfully turned around falling attendance levels. He defends next season's revivals of core repertory like *Tosca*, with which the company opens on September 6, *Così fan tutte*, *The Magic Flute*, *La Bohème* and *Carmen*, and not simply on the ground that they still seem to fill the 2,300-seat Coliseum. "The palates of critics, who see three, four or five operas a week, are inevitably more saturated than the palates of the 350,000 people who come here every year. At *The Magic Flute* two years ago we conducted an audience survey and found that not only had the majority not seen the *Flute* before, but that 40 per cent had not previously been to an opera."

For those who thought that *The Mikado* had finally been retired, it too makes a return as one of just two Jonathan Miller productions. Another old show worth seeing again is the Hytner staging of *Xerxes*. Newer productions returning include *Eugene Onegin* but also the gag-driven *Fairy Queen*, of which one outing was quite enough. The post-Powerhouse ENO has still to build up a stock of its own durable productions.

Only one modern piece features in the main St Martin's Lane season, though of course the Contemporary Opera Studio will still toil away over in Hackney. Gavin Bryars's *Doctor Ox's Experiment*, shifted out of the current season, will now be premiered next June in a production by the fashionable Canadian filmmaker Atom Egoyan. Last November's *Die Soldaten* apart, the other new productions are more interesting than of late: *The Flying Dutchman* staged by Stein Winge, with Willard White; Janáček's *From the House of the Dead* directed by Tim Albery; *Falstaff* in the recent Opera North production by Matthew Warchus; Massenet's *Manon* in a production by David McVicar with Rosa Mannion singing the lead; and an *Elixir of Love* from Jude Kelly, who may well find a way of presenting Donizetti's intimate work at the Coliseum.

Daniel conducts several of the new shows, including September's *Dutchman*. "Some of the programming may look quite selfish, but I want to make a strong connection with the company as a whole, and there's a lot of new work that gives me the opportunity to get close to the chorus." And Marks adds: "This repertory is designed to exploit the talents of the ENO ensemble, which is steadily growing: we've got Sarah Connolly, Margaret Richardson and Riccardo Simonetti joining the company as principals."

What has been lost? *Parsifal* is now promised for 1998-99, and plans are still afoot for a Hackney Empire season including Handel's *Agrippina* with Lesley Garrett, and Weill's *Lost in the Stars*. Cuts have been made to qualify for the Arts Council's Orwellian "stabilisation programme", devised by none other than Mary Allen. Marks speaks up for it wearily: "Do I like it? No, I don't. Do I think that arts funding in this country should be run this way? No, I don't. But in the meantime we've got to learn through it — and to say to the new Government, you've probably got the one last chance to help the arts."

ENO's new music director, Paul Daniel: "This company formed my idea of good opera"

Perfectly formed

A VAST crowd of her compatriots had assembled to support Midori in her recital at the Barbican Hall. There were tiny children, too, for Midori is the Peter Pan of the violin, the child-adult, the prodigy turned grown-up. Those who hang on to her every note will have found plenty to hang on to on Saturday night.

At the compelling centre of the evening was George Enescu's Third Sonata, an extraordinary fantasia on Romanian gypsy music inextricably meshed with Enescu's own responses to both the Eastern and Western European classical traditions. There is nothing Midori likes better than to push herself to the very limit, and when she is playing this music, with its volatile dynamic fluctuations, its minute and melancholy pitch variations, and its extravagant figuration and ornamentation, there is nothing, it seems, she would rather be doing in the whole world.

RECITAL

Midori
Barbican

The same could not be said of her Schubert. The A major Sonata, D574, was meticulously steered sound, rather than song: the first movement was numb at its centre, and the finale strangely joyless.

But Midori was in fine fettle for Kreisler's *Praeludium and Allegro after Pugnani*, a fearless Baroque hoax, whose four-square tonality and rhythmic artifice drew equally confident and thrillingly true playing from Midori and her accompanist Robert McDonald. McDonald could have etched out more clearly the piano writing in the turbulent second movement of César Franck's Sonata. Instead, it hurtled along with little more than raw animal energy.

HILARY FINCH

AN EXCLUSIVE PRIZE DRAW THE TIMES

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THE TIMES Ford TOKEN 3

CHANGING TIMES

BATH FESTIVAL: **Gerald Larner** has his eardrums mightily percussed

For X-philes only

WITH Iannis Xenakis it seems to be a matter of luck. In several Bath Festival concerts in which he was the featured composer there was this remarkable distinction between the extremes of good and bad. The failures might easily have been successes, you felt, if only it had not been for some small but basic miscalculation — the kind of thing which made his *Kai* turn out like crudely abused Messiaen and his *Mists* go spiralling beyond comprehension.

In the Guildhall concert in which *Kai* was performed by the excellent **Reservoir** ensemble the opposite extreme was represented by *Palimpsest*. A brilliant study in the conflict and resolution of forces released from not quite synchronised instrumental sources, *Palimpsest* is so well calculated as to generate high-voltage, irresistible rhythmic energy. There is a similar impression of spontaneity in the piano piece *Evryali*, which **Rolf Hind** played in the same programme as the incomprehensible *Mists* and which he proved to be a true keyboard inspiration.

Among the younger British composers featured, one of the most interesting was Alwynne Pritchard. Her intriguingly scored *Craw*, written for Reservoir, was clearly dictated by the ear rather than by formula and had a corresponding aural appeal in its delicate colouring and sensitive applications of dynamic pressure. And in Hind's recital you could only be impressed by Simon Holt's initially problematic and ultimately beautiful *Nigredo*.

The Guildhall concert by **Les Ateliers UPIC** began with an absurdist degree ceremony to confer an honorary doctorate of music on Xenakis, founder of Les Ateliers UPIC.

Xenakis went through with it like the hero he is but that was only the first problem of a generally ill-conceived evening. Most of the others related to the inescapable and predictable fact that the Guildhall concert room is far too small for percussion music. From the first sound of Xenakis's explosive *Rebonds* we knew we were in for trouble. But that was nothing in comparison with Brigitte Robindoré's *Comme étrangers et voyageurs sur la terre*. Originally scored for one percussionist and tape, it has been revised, to satisfy "metaphysical" requirements, for two percussionists and tape. But it was hard to concentrate on metaphysics when my eardrums were being drilled by the hundred things percussionists can do with a tam-tam.

Having by then heard the festival commission, Xenakis's *EROD* for pre-recorded tape, many understandably fled for safety. Those who stayed were rewarded by another Xenakis piece for tape solo, *S.709*, together with inscrutable but relatively painless works by David Revill and Takehito Shimaza. The one truly musically inspired item, in which the brilliant UPIC percussionist Roland Auzet so spontaneously interacted with the accompanying tape, was the last, Pierre Bernard's *Kiran*.

After that, the one thing we did not want was another percussion concert. But, unbelievably, another percussion concert was being offered as a late-night diversion in the Pavilion. The alternative was a *Cabaret Français!* in the Pump Room. In fact a concert by pianists **Imogen Cooper** and **Anne Queffelec**, it was a very welcome refuge and a healing experience, thanks not least to **Juanita Lascarro**, soprano soloist in songs by Honegger and Ravel.

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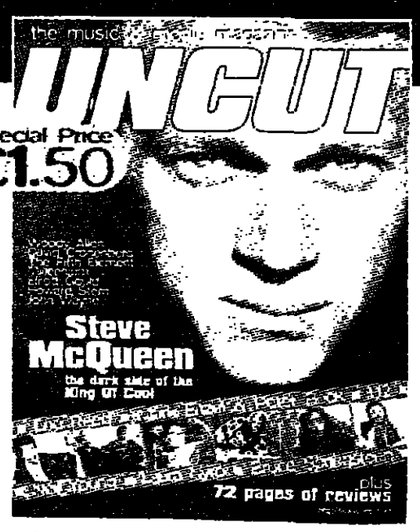

'Everything he did was extreme. He liked an extreme amount of sex, an extreme amount of marijuana, and an extreme amount of cocaine.'
Steve McQueen
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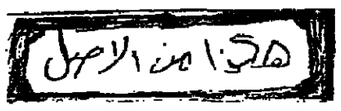

■ POP

No hint of softness or sentimentality as David Bowie delivers a blistering gig in the West End

■ THEATRE

There are few laughs in *Throwaway*, Danny Miller's comedy about East End bookies

THE TIMES ARTS

■ CHOICE 1

Hollywood comes to the stage: in London, Jerry Lewis plays in *Damn Yankees* . . .

VENUE: Opens tonight at the Adelphi Theatre

■ CHOICE 2

. . . and Leslie Caron plays in *Nocturne for Lovers* in Chichester

VENUE: Previews tonight at the Minerva Studio

The man sells his world

POP

David Bowie
Hanover Grand, W1

David Bowie began his set on Monday night with an acoustic guitar around his neck, strumming the chords to *Quicksand* from his 1971 album *Hunky Dory*. "I'm sinking in the quicksand of my thought/And I ain't got the power any more," he sang with the help of a goodly proportion of those fans lucky enough to have been shoehorned into this 720-capacity West End club. Neither the folksy style nor sad sentiment of the song could have been less representative of what was to follow.

True, there was a smattering of old numbers, including *Scary Monsters* and *Fashion*, and a finale of *Jean Genie*, *Queen Bitch* and *Fame* that was dispensed in much the same way as a biscuit might be given to reward a dog for good behaviour. But the emphasis of the set — which was played at crushing volume with a bias towards bass frequencies that bordered on the surreal — was squarely on the more challenging, dance-orientated material from Bowie's most recent albums, *Earthling* and *Outside*.

Whether dishing out the pell-mell jungle rhythms of *Battle for Britain* and *Little Wonder*, or the elephant-walk thump of *Seven Years In Tibet*, neither Bowie nor his shock-trooper band showed any hint of sentimentality or softness. The spectacular energy level was maintained as they worked their way towards a thunderous climax on *Hallo Spaceboy*, during which Reeves Gabrels seemed to deploy his guitar more as a sonic stun gun than a musical instrument.

If nothing else this first, impressive part of the gig underlined the point that Bowie has retained a creative initiative and performing vigour that are rare indeed among artists of his vintage.

Unfortunately, he couldn't leave it at that and, after a 20-minute break, he led the band back for an additional "dance" set. This was a grim affair which basically involved replacing Zachary Alford with a drum machine, cranking up the bass end even louder, and repeating numbers such as *Dead Man Walking* and *V-2 Schneider*, only this time shorn of anything that could be interpreted as a tune. The odd thing was that absolutely nobody danced to any of it.

DAVID SINCLAIR

DES JENSON

"Whether dishing out pell-mell jungle rhythms or elephant-walk thump, David Bowie shows no hint of softness"

THEATRE: Racing comedy set for the knacker's yard; sub-standard fare from the sub-continent

Rather rank outsiders

Throwaway
Theatre Royal, Stratford East

SLICES of East End life are always pitching up at the Theatre Royal: larger-than-life stories that plunder the local streets for inspiration, some of it invention, some of it the honest truth. Danny Miller's story about a Jewish family running a bookie's pitch at the local racecourses never really gives the actors a chance to play with either.

When Billy Macey loses his betting licence for six months because of malpractice it throws the business into financial jeopardy. It's not a large business — basically a betting pitch near the finishing post — but it's successful enough to keep both the family and the Firm (Macey's balding clan of racecourse sidekicks) in jackets and ties. For reasons too complicated to explain here, it is the prodigal son Michael (Ian Dunn), a heroin junkie who hates racing, who provides the legal loophole for the Maceys to do business again.

The drama, such as it is, is limited to arguments between Brian Stephens's nostalgic bully, Billy, Dunn's sullen Michael and Billy's other son, the itchy manipulator Aron (Terence Beesley). Vintage racing memories, entire family trees and the honour of the Maceys are continually invoked, but it is Aron's dirty insider tips that keep the business and the play afloat. Alan Cowan's greasy Spicer supplies a dose of old-fashioned melodrama, with his promises of fixed races and jockeys in the pocket. The rest is men on boxes shouting the odds against a backdrop of giant silk screen prints of crowds, horses and punters.

The occasional one-liner punctuates Kate Williams's plodding production, but the blunt truth is that this is a ropey soap and an outstandingly dull comedy.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER

Bored to the bones

Skeleton
Soho Theatre

THIS odd and unsatisfying play turns out to be based upon a story by Rabindranath Tagore, and the merits of the original are difficult to discern in Tanika Gupta's version of it. Jonathan Lloyd's production — not his best work — will be the last full-size event here before the builders move in. The plans are exciting, and in its various homes these past 25 years the Soho Theatre Company has mounted plays of breathtaking imagination, but this is not one of those, even if a skeleton does come to life on stage and a ten-armed goddess hovers above the rooftops.

The elements are these: young Gopal (Ronny Jhutti) returns to his widowed father at the close of his first year of medical studies in Calcutta. Once upon a time he had thoughts of marrying sweet little Anju (Parminder Nagra) but now he has fallen for one of his professor's daughters. So Question One is: what will happen to Anju?

Question Two is: what's that skeleton all about? Doting father (Renu Setna) has bought it to help his son's studies, but every night the bones reacquire the flesh of their amorous former owner, Nayani (Mina Anwar), who teases Gopal most dreadfully with her winsome ways, and clearly wants to lure the foolish lad to his death.

On the mundane level we are offered a simple tale of love misprized (although Anju has been waiting for Gopal's rejection so that she can marry someone else, so that's all right, then). On the supramundane level the skeleton-ghost-demon's story of killing herself (and a sequence of husbands) because she does not want to lose her beauty bears no relation to the other parts of the play.

So, while such elements as Nagra's perky spirit and Setna's nervous giggles give some pleasure, the play is pretty much of a mess.

JEREMY KINGSTON

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

LONDON

DAMN YANKEES West End debut for [illegible] Jerry Ross [illegible] Jack O'Brien
Adelphi [illegible] (0171-413 [illegible]) Opens tonight 7pm. Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs and Sat 2.30pm

IMAGE, MUSIC AND TEXT Conducting [illegible] and London Music [illegible] programme featuring [illegible] composer [illegible] The evening [illegible] Nymphs, extra final [illegible] from Peter Greenaway's film [illegible] Dominic [illegible] Out of Egypt, George [illegible] and an extract from [illegible] Night Mail. There are [illegible] in a [illegible] directors of the National Film Theatre and a composer [illegible] Guildhall School of Music
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 7.45pm

SPITALFIELDS Concerts in [illegible]

Salisbury Festival [illegible] Until June 7

CHICHESTER Leslie Caron plays George Sand and concerts [illegible] Until June 21

Minerva Studio Chichester Festival Theatre (01243 781312). Previews from tonight, 7.45pm. Opens June 5, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mat Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm. Until June 21

WATFORD In David Farr's [illegible] comedy, **Elton John's Glasses**. Tom Mannion plays a man who cannot get over Watford's promotion to Europe in the 1984 Cup Final. Suitable for all ages
Palace Clarendon Rd (01923 225671). Opens tonight, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Thurs 7.45pm, Fri 7.30, Sat 4pm, mats Sat (June 7, 21) 3pm. Until June 21

LONDON GALLERIES

Boundary Sylvia Mulcahy (0171-624 1126) **British Museum** Photographs by Paul Strand [illegible] **Crane Kalman** [illegible] **Goethe-Institut** Laura Murphy [illegible] **Grosvenor** [illegible] **National Portrait** A Statue for Oscar Wilde by Maggie Hambling (0171-306 0055) **Royal Academy** 229th Summer Exhibition (0171-439 7438). **V & A** Catalonia: Spanish Photographs from the Museum Collection (0171-938 8349/8441)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

□ **THE BIRDS** [illegible] **Gate** [illegible]

□ **THE FIX** [illegible] **Donmar Warehouse** Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat 2pm

□ **FRANKLY SCARLETT** Farcical comedy, about the making of a movie film about Mata Hari. Peter Polycarpou plays Guy Schlocker. Written by Peter Morris and Pablo George, and directed by George
King's Head 115 Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916). Tue-Sat 8pm; mats Sat and Sun 3.30pm. Until June 7

□ **THE GOODBYE GIRL** Gary Wilmot, Ann Crumb and Sheridan Powell in the Harnick/Zippel musical version of Neil Simon's play. Dancer dumped by one actor and landed with another gradually finds love
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat 8.30pm; mats Wed 2pm, Sat, 5pm

◪ **THE HERBAL BED** Peter Whelan's fascinating play. Teresa Banham plays Shakespeare's daughter and Stephen Boxer her Puritan inquisitor
Duchess, Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm

□ **LADY IN THE DARK** The 1941 musical by Moss Hart, Ira Gershwin and Kurt Weill. A fashion editor (Maria Friedman) visits her psychiatrist to tell of her dreams about three men. Directed by Francesca Zambello
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.15pm. In rep

□ **LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN** Braham Murray's production of Wilde. Gabrielle Drake plays the woman with a past, Rebecca Johnson the virtuous wife without a mother
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. Until June 28

□ **A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM** Rachel Kavanaugh's delightful production, alert to the comedy and the mystery. Edwardian costumes
Open Air Regent's Park, NW1 (0171-486 2431). Tonight-Sat, 8pm; mat Wed, 2.30pm

◪ **POPCORN** Ben Elton's satiring somebody (mostly movies) in a Tarantinesque theatre gig. Two comic opportunists when a couple of serial killers blame him for their misdeeds
Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, and Sat, 4pm

□ **THE SCHOOL FOR WIVES** Peter Bowles both touching and comic as Molière's deluded hero. Eric Sykes excellent as his flicker-fingered servant
Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731). Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Wed, 3pm, Sat 4.30pm. Until July 26

LONG RUNNERS

□ **Blood Brothers** Phoenix (0171-369 1733) □ **Buddy** Strand (0171-930 8800) □ **The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)** Criterion (0171-369 1737) ◪ **An Inspector Calls** Garrick (0171-494 5085) □ **Jesus Christ Superstar** Lyceum (0171-656 1807) ◪ **Les Miserables** Palace (0171-434 0909) ◪ **Miss Saigon** Drury Lane (0171-494 5400) □ **The Mousetrap** St Martin's (0171-836 1443) □ **Oliver!** Palladium (0171-494 5020) ■ **The Phantom of the Opera** Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

NEW RELEASES

◆ **ABSOLUTE POWER** (15) The American President is involved in a murder, and burglar Clint Eastwood knows it. With Gene Hackman, Ed Harris and Laura Linney. Enjoyable potboiler
ABCs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Leicester Square** (0181-315 4215) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888990) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096)

BIG NIGHT (15) Tribulations at an Italian restaurant. Thoughtful drama, with Stanley Tucci, Tony Shalhoub, Ian Holm
Barbican (0171-638 8891) **Chelsea** (0171-351 3742) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Gate** (0171-727 4043) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **GRIDLOCK'D** (18) Addicts give up heroin for the New Year. Lively comedy with Tim Roth and Tupac Shakur. Director, Vondie Curtis Hall
Odeon Swiss Cottage (0181-315 4220) **Plaza** (0990-888 990) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888990) **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343)

THE SPITFIRE GRILL (12) Overstuffed, worthy drama centred around a restaurant in Maine. With Alison Elliott, Ellen Burstyn and Will Patton. Directed by Lee David Zlotoff
Warner West End (0171-437 4343)

◆ **TURBULENCE** (18) Serial killer (Ray Liotta) hijacks a 747. Rip-roaring festival of clichés. Director, Robert Butler
Virgin Trocadero (0171-434 0031) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

CURRENT

◆ **ANNA KARENINA** (15) Trite version of Tolstoy's novel, with Sophie Marceau and Sean Bean. Director, Bernard Rose
Notting Hill Coronet (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Haymarket** (0181-315 4212) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888990) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096)

◆ **BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD DO AMERICA** (12) TV's teenage morons conquer the big screen. Fun, but crude animation. Director, Mike Judge
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Empire** (0990 888990) **Plaza** (0990 888990) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888990) **Virgin: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031)

EVERYONE SAYS I LOVE YOU (12) New York neuroses set to music by Woody Allen. Beguiling, but thin. With Alan Alda and Julia Roberts
Minema (0171-235 4225) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Mezzanine** (0181-315 4215)

NO WAY HOME (18) Interesting but bloodless American independent movie about a former prisoner (Tim Roth) sucked into trouble. Director, Buddy Giovinazzo
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Odeon Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527)

◆ **THE RELIC** (15) Monster ruins a natural history museum's gala opening. Tiresome nonsense, with Penelope Ann Miller and Tom Sizemore. Director, Peter Hyams
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Ref: FS/AM Furon Sutaria, 89, Notting Hill Gate, London W11 3JZ.

ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Supporting a small team running the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics in Regent's Park you will be dealing with representatives from over 90 countries, organising travel, meetings, newsletters as well as providing information to medical professionals and their organisations.

You will need to be flexible, efficient, hard working, able to use your own initiative, have both excellent secretarial skills and telephone manner

Computer literacy is a must specifically with knowledge of Microsoft Word, DataEase, Approach, and Excel. Knowledge of Spanish/French a definite advantage.

We offer a competitive salary with a benefits package to the ideal candidate. Please state salary expectations when applying in writing with a current CV to: Ms Franky Kossy, FIGO Secretariat, 27 Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RG

AN EXCLUSIVE COMPETITION

THE TIMES

Win a Ford Ka worth £7,500

To coincide with *Crème 97, The Executive Secretary Show*, we offer you the chance to win a Ford Ka, the curvy car that has become a four-wheel design statement for the nineties. It is worth £7,500. The stylish Ka gives a terrific drive. Neat and nimble, it has excellent handling and roadholding. In town the tightest parking space is yours, while on the open road the response is better than many a larger car. Nearly two feet longer than a Mini, the eye-catching Ka has a 1.3-litre four-cylinder engine and a five-speed gearbox with a top speed of 90mph. Fuel consumption averages 48 miles to the gallon. The Ka is a classy, classless car startling and brilliantly designed.

Ford

HOW TO ENTER

You can see the Ka at *The Times* stand at Olympia 2 on June 11, 12 and 13 where there will also be details of how to enter. Simply call our hotline number, below, before midnight on Wednesday June 18, with your answer to this question:

On average how many miles to the gallon can you get from a Ka?

The winner will be chosen at random from all correct entries. Normal TNL rules apply.

0891 555 920

Calls cost 50p per minute

See our 20-page *Crème de la Crème* supplement in tomorrow's Times

CHANGING TIMES

هكذا من الاصل

CREME DE LA CREME

ROOM AT THE TOP

High Flyer PA — *£28,000 package*

This international media company is looking for an energetic PA to support their Chief Executive. Based in the corporate head offices you will be responsible for liaising with senior management across the group, co-ordinating international schedules and running a complex diary. This high profile role requires an intelligent, highly organised and self-motivated PA with senior level experience and a proven record of running an Executive's office smoothly and efficiently. Skills: shorthand and 60wpm typing.

Committed to equal opportunities.

0171 287 7788

Angela Mortimer

HOBSTONES

OFFICE MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY
£20,000 (negotiable)

An opportunity to assist our client in the running of their small, successful consultancy in an attractive, friendly environment in Holland Pk. This varied role combines PA, + Office Management responsibilites with research projects. The partner seek a self starter happy to work independently and who has familiarity with Word, Excel + Windows 95 as well as accountancy/bookkeeping experience. The ideal candidate will be intelligent, highly organised, display excellent interpersonal + communication skills maturity + flexibility. Please call Veronica Nolan on

0171 437 6032

RECRUITMENT

HOBSTONES

CAREER IN PERSONNEL
£18,000 + IPD sponsorship

An exciting position has arisen for a confident individual with at least 2 years secretarial experience and an interest in personnel to work for the HR Director of a Blue Chip company in W1. Working closely with this young, ambitious Director you will be given tremendous scope to develop your secretarial and personnel skills. This challenging role demands good organisational skills, creative flair, flexible attitude and ability to liaise at all levels. 55wpm typing and good knowledge of MS Word for Windows essential. Exc bens including 25 days hols. Phone Millie Pierre-Louis on

0171 437 6032

RECRUITMENT

HR IN BANKING

£30,000 Package

This international investment bank based in the City, requires a PA to support their senior HR Director. Working within a hectic and challenging environment, you will be involved with all aspects of equity recruitment, liaising with the HR officers in Hong Kong, New York and Australia, drafting your own correspondence and organising complex travel itineraries. Working for an intelligent, client driven boss with global responsibilities, your experience working under pressure for an HR Director will be essential. If you have an excellent command of English grammar and secretarial skills of 60 wpm typing and advanced MS Word and Excel (ch useful), please call us

Committed to equal opportunities

0171 814 0800

Angela Mortimer

GOLD STANDARD

£24,000 Package

Our client is a leading international organisation specialising in natural resources, including gold. They have a vacancy in their corporate headquarters for a senior Personal Assistant to work for a Vice President and the Group Legal Adviser. For this comprehensive and demanding role, the successful candidate will have had extensive experience of complex travel and diary arrangements, international liaison and meeting co-ordination. Outstanding interpersonal abilities and secretarial skills of 90/60 will be essential.

Committed to equal opportunities

0171 814 0800

Angela Mortimer

SUMMER IN THE SUN.... FOR THE SIZZLING HOT TEMPS

Our friendly, approachable and busy consultants are keen to talk to TIP TOP TEMPS for immediate bookings at fantastic rates in TV, Arts, Media in West End, and High Finance in City. Our Temps tell us that our clients' challenging interesting assignments are unrivalled - many stay permanently! All we ask for is 50+ typ, good WPs, shorthand a bonus.

Make the South of France a reality - RING TODAY. Ref 75/51.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES
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WEST END TEMPS
Secretaries and Receptionists

- Top hourly rates, loyalty bonus and paid bank holidays.
- Cross training onto the latest systems.
- **Immediate** short and long term assignments, matched to your individual experience and skills.

For more information please telephone Jo, Sophie, Jane & Astrid on
0171 499 8070

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

CITY TEMPS
Secretaries and Receptionists

- Top hourly rates, loyalty bonus and paid bank holidays
- Cross training onto the latest systems
- **Immediate** short and long term assignments; matched to your individual experience and skills.

For more information please telephone Katrina, Alan, Dawn & Harriet on
0171 638 9991

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

CONCEPT INTERNATIONAL

TV STAR — £16K

Expanding, busy TV Production Co need right hand to assist two Sales Executives. You will be a self-starter, high energy Sec. Co-ordinator. Any Euro lang. 70% Co-ord, 30% shorthand/typing. 50/80. Fun informal office. Great social scene. Sense of humour a must! Total involvement. Age 20-32. Would consider exceptional college leaver.

162-168 Regent St. London W1R 5TB
Tel: 0171-306 5262 Fax: 0171-434 0700

CONCEPT INTERNATIONAL

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT — £16K

Int. Co. Lots of press seminaries. Editing articles within the industry. Organising conferences for the "Press" to attend. Typing 50 wpm. Must have sense of urgency - everything to be done 'yesterday'. Manager needs a real 'hands on PA'. Excellent promotional prospects. Bilingual Spanish/English. Spoken and translations. Age 25-37.

162-168 Regent St. London W1R 5TB
Tel: 0171-306 5262 Fax: 0171-434 0700

FIRST STEPS ON THE CAREER LADDER... to £18,000

We specialise in unusual opportunities for candidates who want a job with a difference...

18K SPORTS INSURANCE - Confident PA to work for Chairman of established co. Age: 20+ Skills: 50/60

16K EXECUTIVE SEARCH - young, fun, hard working co need well presented team sec. room for progression. -/60

15K INTERIOR DESIGN - prestigious firm, top clients. Polished PA, good skills fluent French

14K FINANCE - young team sec required for small team in lively co based in K'bridge. -/60.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES
0171-468 0400

PROJECT DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR

We are a firm of Consulting Engineers (100 staff) involved in the design of a wide range of work, from the design of new buildings to urban planning and the care of historic buildings.

We are looking for an enthusiastic and *intelligent person to fulfil* an important administrative position that controls the overall management of our information about projects and maintains our database.

This is a challenging role which requires clear thinking, organisational skills and the ability to communicate well with people at all levels. The position is based within our finance section and would suit someone who is numerate and computer literate.

Please apply in writing with CV and daytime telephone number to:

Garth Theron
Alan Baxter & Associates
14-16 Cowcross Street
LONDON EC1M 6DR

MATURE PA REQUIRED FOR THREE MAIN BOARD DIRECTORS
LONDON SW1
SALARY NEGOTIABLE PLUS PRP AND PRIVATE HEALTHCARE

We are a large publicity quoted motor group and require a high calibre confidential person, preferably who lives in London, to join our small friendly team based at our Corporate Office in Knightsbride.

A good knowledge of either Word for Windows 6 or Word Perfect 6 and excellent shorthand essential.

If you are able to work under pressure, are unflappable, have good organisational skills and take a real pride in your work, please send your CV to:

Mrs Pat Pilcher
H.R.Owen Plc
Corporate Office
75 Kinnerton Street
London SW1X 8ED

(No agencies please)

Team Secretaries

up to £14,000 pa — ***Westminster***

We are a major engineering consultancy with exciting opportunities for two enthusiastic individuals to join our team in Westminster.

If you have substantial previous experience in a secretarial role, are organised and enjoy the challenge of working for a number of people in a very demanding environment, this role may be just what you are looking for. We specifically need fast typing and knowledge of MS Word and WordPerfect.

To apply, send your concise CV with details of current salary to: Jo Bridges, Parkman Group Ltd, 1 Tudor Court, Station Parade, Brighton Road, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5AE. Tel: 0181 643 9443. Interviews will be held in Westminster.

PARKMAN

PA TO CHAIRMAN

We are an expanding Property Investment Company based in Mayfair looking for a PA to work with the Chairman and the Managing Director in respect of their personal and social affairs. You will require accurate typing skills, an organised and efficient manner, WP Windows 95. You should be flexible and willing to work as a member of a small team.

Attractive salary for the right candidate.
Please Reply to Box No 5432

Assistant to the Managing Director

KING'S College LONDON *Founded* 1829
University of London

We are seeking a bright, self-motivated individual with comprehensive secretarial, administrative and organisational skills to support the Managing Director of KCL Enterprises Ltd and senior members of his team.

KCL Enterprises Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of the College and is responsible for supporting the research activities of the academic staff. This includes promoting research funding opportunities, negotiation of contracts, financial administration of grants and commercialising the results of research.

You will act as the focal point within the company, dealing with both internal and external enquiries, drafting correspondence, taking minutes, organising meetings and seminars and editing the company newsletter and Web page. In addition, you will serve as Office Manager for the company.

You should have previous experience gained within a *commercial/marketing organisation, proven office management and* word-processing skills, be IT literate and have worked at a senior level in the past. You must have the confidence tact and diplomacy to deal and communicate with people at all levels, show initiative, be decisive and flexible in your attitude and respect the confidentiality of the position.

Salary upto a maximum of £19,020 per annum (according to experience and qualifications) for a 35 hour week, normally between the hours of 9 am to 5.30 pm.

For further details and an application form, please send a self addressed envelope to the Personnel Department, Central and Self Financed Areas, Cornwall House, Waterloo Road, London SE1 8WA quoting reference number H5/DK/48/97.

The Closing Date for receipt of applications is 18 June 1997.

Promoting excellence in teaching, learning & research

Equality of opportunity is College policy

PARTNERS SECRETARY
Salary £18,000

We are a small but well established firm of Chartered Surveyors who are expanding into the West End and require an experienced secretary with a good sense of humour to help get us going.

Fax your c.v. to 0171 495 6171 (attn: Bob West/Jon Baines) Knowledge of MS Word essential. No Agencies

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SECRETARIAL POSITION
£14,000

Required for exciting Chelsea based Property Developers. Computer skills, excellent telephone manner and general office duties. Hours 9-6 p.m.

CV's to Olivia, Northacre, 48 Old Church Street, London SW3 5BY

Canning
More sales than admin

Canning runs training courses for business and professional people from all over Europe and East Asia.

We are looking for a lively person with initiative and a good sense of humour to join our sales team, handling the administration of course bookings and developing new business on the telephone. You will be in regular contact with clients, assisting them with their training requirements, giving information on our courses and organising inhouse seminars in your territories.

You will need very good business Spanish and some competence in one other European language as well as English to mother-tongue standard. Some sales experience would also be an advantage as would Win 95 and/or Unix literacy.

Salary £17,000 rising to £17,500 on confirmation in the job after (normally) 3 months. Generous holidays, pension and profit-sharing schemes. If you are 25+, well organised yet flexible and are happy to work in a non-smoking environment, we would like to hear from you. No agencies, please.

Fax your CV to Helen Palmer on 0171 938 2603 giving a daytime telephone number.

HOT AND SUNNY!

WANT A SOCIAL LIFE? £16K-£18K

Prestigious International Company are looking for professional articulate team secretaries with 50wpm typing, W4W and Powerpoint. Brilliant benefits, superb offices, lovely people and no heavy overtime. If you have a steady CV and are aged 22-35 call Anna for further details.

DON'T WANT TO BE A DYNAMO? £17K + EXCELLENT BENS

Do you enjoy typing and want to use your brain? This small and friendly property team, within a Blue Chip company, want to hear from you if you have 60wpm, WP5.1 and W4W. Ideal age 25-35. Call Catherine NOW!

BROKERS NEED HELP! £18K + EXC BENS

Never a dull moment! Stacks of involvement, lots of personalities and a happy, friendly department – does this describe what you are looking for? If you are young, dynamic and charismatic with knowledge of MS Office and rusty shorthand, call Corrina NOW!

NEED SOME MONEY?

Why sit at home waiting for your agency to call when you could be working for one of our prestigious City or West End clients and earn SERIOUS MONEY? Here is just a taster of current assignments we are looking to fill.

IMMEDIATE SHORTHAND ASSIGNMENTS (min 90 wpm)

- Senior Secretary – Banking – Ongoing
- Manager's Secretary – IT – 4 weeks
- Team Secretary – Brokers – 6 months

IMMEDIATE AUDIO ASSIGNMENTS (min 50 wpm)

- Manager's Secretary – Personnel – 6 months
- Team Secretary – Entertainment Finance – Week by week
- Junior Sec/Receptionist – Consultancy – Temp to perm

If you have excellent secretarial skills, a good working knowledge of Windows packages and are aged 18-40, call our Temporary Division NOW!

PAN EUROPEAN RECRUITMENT
TEL: 0171 734 8484
FAX: 0171 734 8501

Personal Assistant to Director
International Executive Search Company
Wimbledon Village

Our Company with a glorious past and bright future has established itself in a niche market. We work in an exceptional environment with a unique modus operandi.

A stylish and confident lady is sought who will have relevant secretarial skills together with flair, personality and dedication.

Rewards will be above the norm.

Other positions available.

Please reply with your CV to

Marlar Bennetts International
4 Glencairn, 78 Ridgway, Wimbledon, SW19 4RA
Tel 0181 947 1056 Fax 0181 946 5722

Established and Prestigious

ART GALLERY

is looking for a PA to Chairman
Fluent French and knowledge of the art world *essential together with shorthand, typing and* Word for Windows.
Age: 30/40

Please reply with CV to:

Mrs J.Handorff
The Lefevre Gallery
30 Bruton Street
London W1X 8JD

Personal Assistant

c£15k — **Sutton, Surrey**

We are currently looking for a PA to the Group Head of our Leukaemia and Myeloma Unit. It's a role offering scope for initiative across a wide range of involvement - one minute you could be dealing with anxious and distressed patients, the next organising an international conference.

You should combine excellent secretarial skills with a highly organised yet flexible approach, good planning and organisational abilities and some previous supervisory and office management experience. You must be proactive to change and have the ability to re-prioritise work in light of unexpected events.

If you are looking for a challenging, stimulating position and if you think you match our requirements we would like to hear from you. In return we can offer a friendly working environment, workplace crèche, holiday playscheme and sports facilities.

For further information, please contact Mary Jo MacAuley on 0181 642 6011 ext. 3307. For an application form and information pack, please contact the Human Resources Department, The Royal Marsden NHS Trust, Downs Road, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5PT. Tel: 0181 643 4824. Please quote job reference 2843. Closing date: 18th June 1997.

Committed to Equal Opportunities in Employment

THE ROYAL MARSDEN NHS TRUST

ARTS/MEDIA/ FILM/HOTELS.

Flexible tranquil brilliant PA wanted. Weekend availability? Large arty Victorian house close Hampstead tube.

CV's to 0171 435 2628.

Secretaries and Receptionists

Due to our expanding network, we have a number of vacancies in the London area for enthusiastic team *players with excellent organisational* skills and a mature outlook. Secretarial applicants should possess high levels of literacy using Word 6 coupled with speeds of 55wpm.
Please write or fax: Marie Noonan, Hamptons International, 50 Belgrave Road, London, SW1V 1RQ.
Tel: 0171 834 2312
Fax: 0171 834 0610

TRAVEL
Team Secretary

Super job working in a busy and fast moving environment. Must be computer literate including Microsoft Word. Salary negotiable for the right smiley person. Fax your CV and call Edward at C.I.L. Travel, Heathcoat House, 20 Savile Row, London W1X 1AE

Tel: 0171 434 3662
Fax: 0171 494 3695
No Agencies

GOOD ALL ROUNDER

For fun, lively recruitment consultancy in SW London. This position would suit a college leaver who is quick thinking has a good telephone manner and would like to organise us. Administration skills and an interest in computers (preferably apple mac's) essential. This is a varied role in a busy, progressive office.
Please call Annie on 0171 924 6464

Office Services Manager

The Firm

Andersen Consulting enjoys the prestige of being the world's largest business and technology consultancy. Our outsourcing division, Business Process Management (BPM) pioneered the concept of outsourcing business-critical functions such as Accounting, Supply Chain Services and IT functions and through such strategic alliances we are both a key partner and an integral part of our clients' success. With ambitious plans for future expansion we have shown substantial growth in recent years. BPM currently has in excess of 2000 employees.

The Role

The ultimate remit of the role is the delivery and management of high quality secretarial and administration services to all BPM units throughout the UK and at the London head office. The main activities are as follows:

- Recruitment and development of all permanent and temporary secretaries; the administration to include the liaison with Partners, HR Managers and Directors to ensure the smooth operation of resources.
- Co-ordination and implementation of office environments including the provision of IT, space allocation and to assist in the setting-up of new Unit offices.
- Monitor and control all budgets to achieve agreed spending levels.
- Event management, conferences and major social functions.
- Other ad hoc project work as required.

The Person

This is a very senior role which requires someone with presence, maturity and diplomacy and the capability to liaise effectively with executive personnel. The person requirements are:

- Experience of working within a large professional organisation.
- Competence in managing and leading a team of people across diverse geographic locations.
- Ability to manage large budgets.
- Familiarity with secretarial and administrative procedures.
- Professionalism, self-confidence, creativity, business acumen and a Client/Customer focus are essential qualities.

Competitive Salary and Excellent Benefits Package

Please reply with full Curriculum Vitae together with current and expected salary details to:

Our retained consultant,
Sheila Griffiths at Consult, 13 Broad Street, ALRESFORD, Hampshire SO24 9AR. Telephone 01962 735577 (24 hrs) Fax 01962 735007.

ANDERSEN CONSULTING

RECEPTIONIST
c£15,000 + Benefits

A prestigious wine merchant in Central London is seeking to recruit an articulate, well presented receptionist.

The successful applicant must have six months experience as a receptionist or similar position, an excellent telephone manner, 45 wpm typing and be windows literate. If you are bright and confident in your approach and have the ability to work on your own initiative in a busy and exciting environment, send your CV to PO box no for an immediate start.

Top Rates for Top People
Long term assignments for experienced Secretaries
Central and West London

Excellent remuneration for quality secretaries, 50wpm using Microsoft Word - good shorthand attract even higher rates. Good organisational and communication skills. If you want the rewards that go with a challenging demanding and interesting job, then contact: Sandra Balm.

BePos
The Agency of Choice
Telephone 0181 846 6910
Fax 0181 741 2001

WE ARE an international, organization working in environmental education.

WE NEED an organized, dynamic and well presented office manager with minimum 3 years experience in building and office management, and Apple Mac systems. A broad range of skills and the ability to get "stuck in" are essential.

THIS IS an opportunity for you to work as part of a highly motivated and innovative team (15 staff) towards resolving the most important issues of our time. Salary £18,23,000.

For further information and an application form contact Living Earth on 0171 258 1823.

PA/OFFICE MANAGER

Leading TV production company based in small central London office seeks recent graduate (business/law rather than media) with usual secretarial and admin qualifications. This demanding junior position, working for both proprietor and MD, is intended as an eventual springboard to senior responsibility and as such provides security but low initial salary. Suit powerfully motivated, well-organised self-starter seeking to run a TV company in a number of years and willing to sacrifice regular hours and good salary for a unique opportunity. Write persuasively and immediately, with full CV and references, to fax 0171.435.4624.

CREME DE LA CREME

MAINE-TUCKER
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
Interested in Company Secretarial?....
Secretary/Administrator
up to £20,000 + excellent bonus
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Telephone: 0171 734 7311 Facsimile: 0171 734 3260

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THE LIFE OF LUXURY IN SW1...
A Swish Receptionist -
£16,000 + healthcare + pens
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Telephone: 0171 734 7311 Facsimile: 0171 734 3260

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RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
Graphics/Presentations Whizz!
£18,000 + pens, prp. bonus, 25 days hols, gym sub, free lunch!
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Telephone: 0171 734 7311 Facsimile: 0171 734 3260

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WHAT A FAB FIRST JOB!
£14,000 + Bonus + Good Bens
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Telephone: 0171 734 7311 Facsimile: 0171 734 3260

LEGAL EXECUTIVE
£23,000

This dynamic partner is looking for a true executive assistant. You will be a key figure in the continuing success and development of this prestigious legal firm.
85wpm typing.

Please telephone ***0171 495 2321.***

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

EXECUTIVE SEARCH
£23,000

+ 5 weeks hols, Xmas bonus, BUPA, pension. Often dealing at VIP level, these two young high fliers need first class PA/admin support. Common sense and the ability to organise and communicate effectively are essential. Involvement guaranteed.53wpm Audio.
Age 20-30 years.

Please telephone ***0171 495 2321.***

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

TELEVISION
£22,000

This international TV company requires a confident secretary to help co-ordinate an exciting new venture. Suit a bright individual with excellent communication skills.
50wpm typing. W4W.

Please telephone ***0171 495 2321.***

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

BANKING PA
£24,000 Package

Financial background not needed, when you assist this dynamic executive with international responsibilities. Director level experience, the ability to meet deadlines and a willingness to do overtime is essential.
80wpm shorthand,
Windows packages

Please telephone ***0171 628 9529.***

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PERSONNEL
£20,000

Are you a people person who will thrive in a varied personnel role for a firm of Management Consultants? You will be involved in all aspects of the recruitment process in London and Manchester and will be responsible for running the office.
45wpm typing.

Please telephone on ***0171 628 9529.***

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

MAINE-TUCKER
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
ARE YOU LOCAL TO WANDSWORTH?
...LOVELY RECEPTION JOB
c. £14,000
18-21 Jermyn Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone: 0171 734 7311 Facsimile: 0171 734 3260

Aldrich & Company

TRADING FLOOR MADNESS
£21,000 + FULL BANK BENS

Provide full organisational and admin support on a very hectic (derivatives) trading floor. Its a fun environment for someone with a bright, outgoing personality, a good telephone manner, secretarial skills and a natural ability to get on with people - its client focused and market driven. Call **Emily Aldrich**

CITY RECRUITMENT
Tel: 0171 588 8999 Fax: 0171 588 8998

Aldrich & Company

PA TO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
£22,000 + FULL BANK BENS

A confident PA is required to run the office of an Executive Director at a major investment bank in London. You will have lots of responsibility and involvement and constantly liaise with city institutions, clients (particularly in central Europe) and his associates in London. Its going to be high profile and challenging. Call **Sarah Turnbull**

CITY RECRUITMENT
Tel: 0171 588 8999 Fax: 0171 588 8998

Aldrich & Company

RESEARCH ASSISTANT
to £24,000 + BANK BENS

This dynamic new role will include preparing client reports, developing the new database and organising strategy meetings for analysts in the European Strategy team of this leading Bank. You should have an understanding of the business and markets and be IT literate with excellent communication skills. Call **Alex Gaze**

CITY RECRUITMENT
Tel: 0171 588 8999 Fax: 0171 588 8998

Aldrich & Company

PA TO THE CHAIRMAN
£26,000 - 30,000 + FULL BANK BENS

A top level PA position to run the Chairman's office at a major investment bank's city based HQ. A real right-hand-man role, liaising with VIPs, organising schedules, projects and be using your secretarial and organisational skills to the full (100/60). Good sense of humour essential - its a fun job. Call **Emily Aldrich**

CITY RECRUITMENT
Tel: 0171 588 8999 Fax: 0171 588 8998

The company: High profile international moneybroker: vibrant fast paced atmosphere.

The role: Wide variety admin role providing travel, diary, expenses and secretarial support on a team basis.

The essentials: Intelligent confident approach, good telephone skills; minimum 2 years' secretarial experience, languages useful (esp German, French).

one IN A million
£18-20,000 – EC2
GORDON·YATES
a passion for recruitment
WEST END tel: 0171 494 4466 fax: 0171 494 4499
CITY tel: 0171 283 4664 fax: 0171 283 4994

The company: Prestigious investment capital company.

The role: Team focused secretarial role which will develop on the portfolio admin side.

The essentials: Minimum 2 years' experience, figure orientated capable of taking on some financial admin: database and WP.2 and Excel experience.

A head FOR figures
£18,000
GORDON·YATES
a passion for recruitment
WEST END tel: 0171 494 4466 fax: 0171 494 4499
CITY tel: 0171 283 4664 fax: 0171 283 4994

You have:
- At least 12 months' secretarial experience
- A bright, bubbly enthusiastic personality
- Confident PC skills including Word and Excel

One of Europe's most exclusive investment specialists need you to join a small team involved in pension fund admin. Call now to find out more about this hot opportunity.

hot opportunity!
to £21,000 aae – SW1
GORDON·YATES
a passion for recruitment
WEST END tel: 0171 494 4466 fax: 0171 494 4499
CITY tel: 0171 283 4664 fax: 0171 283 4994

The company: Leading distributor of state of the art office technology.

The role: You will be the lynch pin, organising and typing. Warm, friendly atmosphere for a talented professional.

The essentials: Minimum 4 years' secretarial experience, confident, mature and flexible. You will make a difference

make IT happen
£17-20,000 – W1
GORDON·YATES
a passion for recruitment
WEST END tel: 0171 494 4466 fax: 0171 494 4499
CITY tel: 0171 283 4664 fax: 0171 283 4994

The company: One of the world's largest financial organisations. fun and fast moving environment.

The role: Supporting the Head of Corporate Finance, a varied and challenging role with a winning team.

The essentials: Organised unflappable, bright and enthusiastic, with financial experience and 65wpm typing.

city PA
£20k + Benefits
GORDON·YATES
a passion for recruitment
WEST END tel: 0171 494 4466 fax: 0171 494 4499
CITY tel: 0171 283 4664 fax: 0171 283 4994

Secretary

£15,105 - £18,480 p.a.

The BMA is the doctors' professional association and provides a wide range of services to its members.

We are looking for an experienced secretary to provide support to the team who service major committees at the heart of the association's activities.

Applicants should have formal secretarial training, at least two years' relevant experience and fast, accurate audio/wordprocessing skills (WordPerfect 6.1). A confident telephone manner is essential.

Please apply in writing, enclosing CV to:

Human Resources Department,
British Medical Association,
BMA House,
Tavistock Square,
London WC1H 9JP.

We are unable to acknowledge all applications and only those selected for interview will be contacted

Closing date: 11th June 1997

BMA

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY

OFFICE MANAGER
c£20,000

Compass Partnership, a top management consultancy working with not-for-profit organisations including Oxfam, Mencap and the Arts Council, seeks an exceptional manager to run our new Central London office.

Responsibility for ensuring the quality of the adminstrative service for 14 consultants. Includes developing office systems, overseeing report production, marketing and managing two secretaries.

Excellent career development post for someone with initiative and able to stay calm under pressure.
Minimum typing 60 wpm

Closing date 17th June, first interviews 26th June.

Phone 0181 994 6477 x 2276 for application form.

TV PRODUCTION **c£19,000**

Successful TV production co based in West London. Would suit candidate who enjoys working closely with 2 very busy bosses. High admin content and might suit confident candidate with previous legal secretarial experience. Occasionally pressurised but regularish) hours. Interesting position and environment plus plenty of opportunity to create own niche. 60+wpm typing + W4Ws.

TEL: 0171 499 6566 FAX: 0171 493 6320
GROSVENOR BUREAU

Calling All Secretaries...

We're busier than ever this summer, with some scorching jobs! Here's a sample of hot Permanent vacancies, but don't forget we offer a wide variety of well paid Temporary assignments too.

SECRETARY £16,000 PICCADILLY
If you're an experienced secretary with lots of initiative & ambition, then this could be your lucky day! Initially you will provide full audio secretarial and organisational support to the Director (up to 80% typing), but the role does have scope to develop into a PA position. Be a star in the Film Industry!

AUDIO SECRETARY £16,000 WEST END
Give your career a boost, and come and work for the Director of a small but booming property Co. There's lots of typing and telephone work, so experience is essential. It's a fantastic team to work with and the company certainly know how to look after their staff.

SECRETARY £14,500 + Benefits WEST END
Working for a leading magazine publishers, this is a full secretarial position, with lots of typing and external as well internal liaison. The approach is very much 'let's all muck in' so you will need to be flexible and enjoy working with a sociable team. Great benefits.

SHORTHAND SECRETARY £14,000 OXFORD CIRCUS
Fancy breaking into the fashion industry? A well known image/fashion consultancy need a fast, efficient, well presented secretary to keep the typing under control and things running smoothly.

To find out more please call CHRYS or BEVERLEY (permanent) or DENISE LE *MEN* (temporary) on *0171 629 0777* or come and meet the team at:
311 REGENT STREET, LONDON. W1R 5AJ.

Office Angels
Recruitment Consultants

Bankers Trust

Secretary to Department Head

The Organisation

Bankers Trust is a global financial services company which is committed to pre-eminence in the strategic management of risk for its clients and for the firm. The firm is organised globally into five major business units: Investment banking, risk management products and services, client transaction processing, cash management and fund management.

The Role

Working within Securities Operations, you will perform a busy and varied role incorporating arranging travel, precising documents and reports, organising and attending meetings in addition to contacting and meeting clients. There is a focus on a one-to-one relationship with the department head, however there are additional *responsibilities in the support of the departments organisational and administrative* needs.

The Successful Individual

You will have experience of working in a pressurised environment, preferably within a leading investment bank. Well presented, with strong interpersonal skills, you must be able to demonstrate flexibility, commitment and determination to ensure the varied and numerous tasks are performed in a timely and efficient manner.

This is an excellent opportunity to secure a high profile and senior PA role within this premier investment bank.

If you feel you match the above criteria, and require more information, please telephone or send your cv to Hays Banking Secretarial, 41-42 London Wall, London EC2M 5TB. Tel: 0171 638 7003. Fax: 0171 628 5057. All direct applications will be forwarded to Hays Banking Secretarial.

Hays Banking Secretarial

Administrator

HEALTH AND SAFETY

c£17,000 + Benefits **Central London**

Woolworths is one of the great high street retail successes. Our health and safety department is responsible for maintaining a safe environment for all our employees and customers.

This proactive role carries significant responsibility to organise meetings, produce management reports, assess and maintain accurate Health & Safety records on database and provide first class secretarial/administrative support to the department.

You should have 2+ years secretarial/administration experience ideally gained in a retail environment, together with excellent office management skills. You will also need to be able to meet deadlines, work with minimum supervision, and be numerate and analytical using your advanced Excel and W4W packages.

To apply please contact our consultants, Select Appointments, 28 South Molton Street, London W1Y 1DA. Tel: 0171 491 8133, Fax 493 8456.

WOOLWORTHS

We welcome applicants from all sections of the community.

Sales Administrator
Germany
£ Competitive + benefits

Easy Jeans, a major name in casual clothing, is seeking a fluent German speaker to join their expanding export team.

You will be responsible for liaising with agents and customers in Germany, processing and preparing deliveries and orders, and assisting in the organisation of trade shows

Applicants should be computer literate and have a minimum of one years experience in a similar role.

If you are interested in working for this fast growing company, please send your C.V., detailing current salary to:

Sadie Syed, Human Resources, Easy Jeans, 385 Edgware Road, London, NW2 6LG. Telephone: 0181 450 8181. E-mail: ssyed@easyjeans.co.uk

The top *Secretarial* assignments with Manpower

Start work today in one of our busy and challenging secretarial assignments. We can offer regular work with excellent pay rates, and a full benefits package, which includes Bank Holiday pay, with free cross training on the latest packages and a friendly and professional service.

Call now on 0171 355 1133.

MANPOWER

No two days the same

Do you crave variety, responsibility, demanding challenges and the opportunity to be recognised for your talent? Do you thrive in a hectic environment where *everything you do is priority* status, you rely on your initiative and have to think on your feet? If the answer is yes, then we have the perfect job opportunities for you. Our client is one of the world's leading business and financial advisors with 670 offices in over 130 countries. Their client portfolio contains more Times 100 names than anyone else's which is why their **secretaries**, as an integral part of the teams serving such clients, need to be experienced in working in very high profile areas. You could be working in many varying business sectors ranging from taxation and accounting to corporate finance and management consultancy. You could be fully utilising all your skills in an environment where no two days are the same. You could be enjoying the flexibility of temporary work whilst enjoying the security of continual long term employment. Your valued talent will be rewarded with excellent rates of pay and a full benefits package (including a mortgage scheme). If you deserve to be recognised for YOUR high profile abilities, **call Emma Hoddell on 0171 353 7684 for further details** *[Ref:TC1001].*

MANPOWER

SECURE CONTRACTS•HOLIDAY & BANK HOLIDAY PAY•ACCIDENT & LIFE COVER•NEW SKILLS TRAINING

CHALLENGING WORK

The Executive Chairman of a research and public affairs consultancy is looking for a Secretary/PA ready to accept a challenge. The company is motivated, intellectual and friendly. Telephone manner, common sense and intelligence are important: shorthand, languages and computer literacy highly desirable.
Salary £20K

Please send your CV to:
Terri Massally
2 Ridgmount Street
London WC1E 7AA
No agencies

COBY PHILIPS
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Senior Secretary £24K -

Fine bunch + BUPA are just some of the benefits! Global investment Co. in SW1 require a senior Sec to support MD & his small team. Demanding & varied role, would suit experienced 'unflappable' Secretary, looking for a challenge.
Pacey ss, W4W + Powerpoint are a must. Call today for further details on

0171 287 6116 or Fax your CV on 0171 287 6556.

ESTATE AGENCY RECRUITMENT

PROPERTY PA

Req'd to work for a prestigious Central London Agency. Good typing & Communication skills essential. Needs to be enthusiastic, well presented and hold a keen interest in property. **Salary c£16k**
For more information CALL: 0171 938 3855
Estate Agency Recruitment

PA/OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR **circa £17,500**

Forming a retail design specialist with a world-wide client portfolio

We urgently seek an individual with excellent organisational, communication and secretarial skills to handle all forms of administration and co-ordinate our busy office

You are a self starter and take a proactive approach to your working environment. You are computer literate and have experience in using Windows 97.

If you are looking for a challenging and varied role in a creative and exciting environment please send or fax your details to: Neil Levy, Portland Design Associates, Business Design Centre, Upper St. Islington Green, London N1 0QH • Fax No: 0171 288 6163

S.O.S!

Do you need Temp or Perm Sec/Reception /General Office work? If so, please call Selective Office Support and speak to Jane or Lynn on 0171 355 5092, for a fresh, friendly candidate based approach to Recruitment.

SALES & MARKETING PA
to £18,000

Designer Fragrance Co based in West End, London seeks highly organised, flexible, hands-on PA/Secretary. Varied role providing secretarial and eventually marketing support. Good typing and WP skills.
The Language Business
Tel: 0171-379 3189
Fax: 0171-379 8624

LEGAL FLOAT SECS, CITY. **£22,500 + BENS**
Major Liverpool St. law practice seek experienced law secs to provide float secretarial cover in all departments. Salaries to £22,500 with bens including Pension, BUPA and subs gym and canteen. Call IAN CASTLE on 0171 374 4298.

CONVEYANCING PA, WC2. **£21,500 + BENS**
Head of Property requires experienced conveyancing sec to provide him with full *secretarial and administrative support. Candidates must have previous exp at Partner* level. Good starting salary + early review. Call VICKY HARRIS on 0171 374 4298.

LEGAL EVENING WP OPs, 2 VACANCIES. £23,000 + BENS
International law firm needs 2 wp ops to join their expanding evening shifts. Candidates must have legal exp - preferably as a wp operator but not essential. Please call IAN CASTLE on 0171 374 4298.

Portman Recruitment Services Ltd., Warnford Court,
29 Throgmorton Street, London EC2N 2AT.
portman@portman - recruitment.co.uk
Fax: 0171 628 5878

PORTMAN
legal • 0171 374 4298

PA/Systems Administrator
25K + bens
Varied role running Novell Network, keep update of quarterly reports & presentation involvement. Novell, Powerpoint. 55wpm essen. Age 20's - 30's.
Val Wade Rec Cons
0171 437 3793

PRODUCTION ADVISOR
20K + bens
Leading Management Consultancy Coach graphics/presentations within this fast paced demanding role. Mac, W4W, Powerpoint. 45wpm essen.
Val Wade Rec Cons
0171 437 3793

Over-busy MD of leading PR Company seeks energetic junior secretary to help his PA look after his schedule. Hours 11am - 7pm.
Please fax your CV to Erica Evans on
0171 344 1298

£20,000 & Exc Bens
POWERPOINT

Your role in supporting this small dynamic team will involve providing full secretarial support to three busy managers within a multinational environment, as well as using your creative flair to produce sophisticated presentations on powerpoint. You will be a proactive, resourceful person who enjoys being the focal point of a department and using your organisational & communication skills to the full. 60 typing.

0171-831-1220

RECRUITMENT COMPANY
5 GARRICK STREET WC2E 9AR

هكذا من الأصل

CREME DE LA CREME

LAP OF LUXURY
£13,000 TO £15,000
WEST END

Exclusive London hotel seeks an enthusiastic, outgoing assistant. An exciting role juggling a variety of tasks such as menu planning, organising the flowers, booking conference rooms, as well as becoming involved in all areas of hotel life. Full secretarial support is essential for co-ordinating hotel administration behind the scenes. If you are looking for progression, and have 50wpm and good WP packages please contact Andrea Murrell or Lucy Thomas on 0171 434 4512.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

Office Administrator

£20,000

A busy chemical company requires an efficient administrator to be responsible for running the office. Strong secretarial skills and an outgoing personality are essential to secure this position. Candidates must also have previous bookkeeping experience, a sound working knowledge of Sage, MS Office and Word4Windows and 50wpm. Luxurious office environment.

REED
For Executive Secretarial positions In The West End, Tel: 0171 224 2820
For over 1,000 jobs, visit http://www.reed.co.uk

Time is Money
£20,000
West Hampstead

A varied and responsible role working for the Managing Director of International luxury goods manufacturer. Liaise at the highest level, manage a busy diary and provide strong lines of communication as well as co-ordinating your own projects. You must be prepared to take responsibility, self confident, motivated and have a lively and intelligent disposition. Proven PA track record, Word 6 for Windows and shorthand a must. For further information please contact Andrea Murrell on 0171 434 4512.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

Secretary In Finance

c£20,000

Highly professional secretary sought to provide backup to the Assistant Group Treasurer and 5 others in the treasury department of this major utilities company. Duties involve both a secretarial role and covering for the Settlements Confirmation Clerk so experience or an interest in finance would be helpful. Word4Windows essential. Training given on other systems.

REED
For Executive Secretarial positions In The City, Tel: 0171 638 1666
For over 1,000 jobs, visit http://www.reed.co.uk

Moving On Up
£17-19K + Fab Bens
West End

Large international firm seeks excellent secretarial assistants to join their dynamic team. You will have good knowledge of Windows combined with a strong sense of team responsibility as well as a real eye for detail and boundless enthusiasm. The job content is interesting and diverse with the opportunity to become totally involved. A minimum of 5 GCSE's at Grade C and the attitude to succeed are the key. Please call Susanna Hargreaves on 0171 434 4512

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

HIGHLY RATEABLE!
Temping that adds up

£10.00ph
- 2 years PA experience at Board level
- 90 wpm shorthand/55 wpm typing/audio
- Intermediate Word for Windows, Excel and Powerpoint

£12.50ph
- 3 years PA experience at Director level
- 60 wpm typing/audio
- Advanced Word for Windows, Powerpoint or Freelance

£9.50ph
- 2 years experience at Director level
- Intermediate Word on Apple Mac, Powerpoint and Claris Works
- 60 wpm typing

£9.00ph
- 1 year team level secretarial experience
- 55 wpm typing
- Advanced Word for Windows and Excel

As a Crone Corkill temporary secretary your skills will always be recognised by us and rewarded with the best hourly rates in London. We match everyone's individual skills to the right assignment and ensure you receive the rate you deserve.

+ Plus we offer you opportunities to explore the world of high finance in the City with its fast moving pace and frequent long hours - good for the bank balance! Alternatively, the West End provides a wealth of different industries from media to marketing in plcs and private companies.

+ In addition, we are the only agency in London to give our temporary team AIR MILES* awards for every hour worked.

+ If you have language skills we have a specialist language division to find you work.

= The sum total of this is can you afford not to register with Crone Corkill?

£ RING US NOW ON:

0171-434 4512
West End

*AIR MILES and the Flying Boat logo are trademarks of AIR MILES International Holdings N.V. AIR MILES awards are held and issued for use subject to AIR MILES Customer Terms and Conditions.

Crone Corkill
Temporary Recruitment

INVESTMENT BANK
£20,000 + Exc Pkge

We are currently working on behalf of an investment bank, looking for a French/German speaking sec. A professional, career secretary who wishes to use her languages. Most likely you will have worked in banking before and have fluent French and German in working and social environments.

..please call Julie Chapman on 0171 499 5881

CONVEYANCING IN THE CITY
for £20,000

Our client, a prestigious law firm based in the city are looking for secs with conveyancing exp. Professional environment, very smart offices and good bens. This firm look for stable work history & exc typing & WP skills together with a professional manner.

..please call Julie Chapman on 0171 499 5881

INT'L MGMT CONSULTANTS
£20,000

This organisation are looking for team secs with ex Powerpoint skills to work in an environment dedicated to work, work work. Exc working environment / benefits offered. Only call us if you are a secretary with boundless energy, drive and commitment.

..please call Julie Chapman on 0171 499 5881

Adecco Elite

FRONT LINE RECEPTIONISTS

Up to £18,000 package pro rata for long term contracts, with the possibility of becoming permanent. Professional, enthusiastic and confident people required by prestigious City Investment Bank with stunning offices. Varied role with lots of profile contact and no switchboard duties working in a large friendly team. Benefits include paid holiday, overtime and 2 uniforms per year. Hotel or similar front-line experience useful. Please contact Sarah Champion or Jo Hibbin for an immediate interview and start. 0171 390 7000.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Crone Corkill
Temporary Recruitment

PA ADMINISTRATOR TO TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
£18 - 20,000 - CITY

Large prestigious City Co. has an excellent opportunity for a well organised PA with first class communication/liaison skills. Assisting this extremely busy Director in a variety of work you must be enthusiastic, proactive, highly customer focused and self-motivated. Typing audio/copy 60 wpm, MS Word/Excel/Powerpoint required. (Pref. A'Levels).

Call now on 0171 626 8989 (Day)/0850 978 888 (Eve)
Rec. Cons

PA/SH/SEC
DARTFORD
£18,000

Must be aged 28-40 and have 110wpm shorthand

DARTFORD APPOINTMENTS
01322 303366

WE'VE GOT JUNE, BUT WHERE'S TERRY?

If you feel there's something missing in your life then maybe its time for a career review. Our Baker Street team are genuinely inundated with some really wonderful full & part time vacancies, some to start immediately. So, make this a great start to your summer & choose from one of these:

SECRETARY £15,000 MARYLEBONE
An ideal opening for those looking to develop upon their HR experience. Assisting an extremely busy Personnel Manager you'll oversee office administration (including diary management), handle telephone enquiries plus deal with staff records, so a confidential, hard working attitude will prove an invaluable asset. Offers a wide variety of company benefits.

RECEPTIONIST/TYPIST to £14,000 NOTTING HILL
Based on a very stylish Front Desk, this is a great opportunity for a bright spark to gain a busy, varied role, acting as the pivotal point of contact for staff & visitors alike at this exclusive Sixth Form College. You'll need a professional but personable approach, both over the phone & face to face, but in return you'll join a friendly, sociable team in a role which offers six weeks annual holiday & a twice yearly bonus.

SECRETARY £15,000 HAMPSTEAD
Join this go-getting Sales team & we guarantee - you'll never have a dull moment! Set right in the heart of Hampstead Village, this is a great opportunity for a 2nd jobber to use their creative side, as apart from providing general 60 wpm Secretarial support you'll also design mailshots/graphics & have scope to really use your initiative. Shorthand is essential.

Call REBEKAH now on 0171 935 7248.
We're positive we can really make a difference.
111 Baker Street, London, W1M 1FE.

Office Angels

Judy Farquharson Ltd.

ACCOUNT COORDINATOR
Leading PR agency, with young, buzzing culture, requires an account coordinator to provide support and administration to a team of 12 on a well known consumer brand account. Manage team diary, coordinate events, liaise with clients' PAs, filing. Must have 1-2 years' PR experience, good knowledge of Excel and have 50wpm typing. £16,000+

JUNIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Very well known consumer PR agency. Must have at least 1 year's consumer PR and event management experience and 50wpm typing. £14-15,000

PUBLISHING ASSISTANT
Well known international publishing company requires an assistant to support the Head of International Sales and Marketing. General admin, secretarial work, travel arrangements. Must be fluent in German and have 50wpm typing. £12-16,000 aae.

Please fax or send CVs to Juliette Wood.
47 New Bond St, London W1Y 9HA
Tel: 0171-493 8824 Fax: 0171-493 7161
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

JFL

THE McKINLAY LAW PARTNERSHIP
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
TEL (0171) 930 6060 FAX (0171) 930 6044

COLLEGE LEAVERS

Legal Secretary £14,500:
A major plc need a confident college leaver to assist their legal advisor. A legal secretarial certificate essential.
Marketing Secretary £14,000:
A Prestigious city law firm are in need a college leaver to assist their marketing manager. Excellent prospects.
Personnel Secretary £12,000:
A major city law firm need college leaver to join their recruitment department. Excellent benefits.

All vacancies require a minimum of five GCSE's at Grade B or above, a recognised secretarial certificate and 50wpm typing.

0171 930 6060

Knightsbridge PA
£20-25,000

A real 'one off'! Fabulous opportunity to be PA to this entrepeneurial, wealthy Businessman with fingers in a lot of pies - Hotels, Restaurants and property to name just a few. Working in informal but proffessional offices not only will you be organising his busy work schedule, but also coping with the demands of his lifestyle - organising Lunches, Dinners, Diaries, Travel Itineries etc - anything and everything! Sence of humour important along with confidence and maturity. Age 28-35. 60wpm + Windows. Imm start.

ANDERSON HOARE
0171 824 8821

YOUNG CITY SEC
£16k + Free Travel + Bens

Fantastic role in top city co. giving support to a dynamic personable director. True involvement, lots of client liaison in busy, fast moving env. 50/50 sec/admin duties include preparing materials for speeches/presentations, attending mtgs - full PA/Sec support. Variety, challenge & good prospects assured. 55wpm WP and 2yrs sec exp ess. (Exc Bens include: free travel up to £2,400 pa, gym, free lunches, private health care, pension and life assurance - paid O/Ts.

NEXT EMPLOYMENT
TEL: 0171 287 3664 FAX: 0171 287 3564

PR

Do you need to be needed? Fantastic 1st/2nd job opportunity working for a professional consultancy currently expanding in Europe. Using your excellent organisational skills and natural charm you will be responsible for the daily running of the office and will provide the backbone to this small company with big clients. If you are flexible, well presented and on the ball this is an ideal window for someone to realy learn about PR. Fed up with not being included? This could be the one for you! W4W 40 wpm (minimal typing), languages a bonus. Salary 13K-15K AAE + package.

ANDERSON HOARE
0171 824 8821

Career Secretary
£22,000
Blue Chip Secretary
£20,000
Fine Arts Secretary
£18,000

For more details please call
Tel: 0171 499 5406
Fax: 0171 499 4878

SUSAN HAMILTON PERSONNEL

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Power PA
£19,000 + Bonus & Bens

This well established group of companies are looking for a dynamic Career Secretary to work alongside their Sales & Marketing Director. Full involvement is absolutely guaranteed so a background in this field is essential along with excellent skills (including Powerpoint). If you are of an outgoing nature with an amazing sense of humour and want to look forward to getting up every morning....

...call SAM this afternoon for an immediate interview.

This is one of many senior vacancies we are currently dealing with and welcome all you unchallenged PA's who are ready to move into a more professional and dynamic environment. *Salary expectations should be between £18-22K.*

Look forward to meeting you at Creme 97, Earls Court!

Tel: 0171 287 0220
Portman Recruitment
181 Oxford St
London W1
Fax: 0171 287 1060

PORTMAN
West End 0171•287 0220

RECEPTION SELECTION

HEY GOOD-LOOKING!
£18,000

Image conscious, out-going receptionist for dynamic & successful co based Fulham/Chelsea. Typ min 40wpm, well spoken with min 1 yrs exp. Age 24-35yrs.

Norma Skemp Recruitment: 0171 222 5091.

DRAKE INTERNATIONAL
Permanent Recruitment Consultant
South Molton St, W1

I could tell you how successful we are in over eleven countries world-wide. I could also tell you that we are one of the largest privately - owned Human Resource consultancies in the world with successful operations from Paris to Singapore. Or perhaps I should just say that we have a wonderful team of people in London and need one more.

We need a consultant with energy, style and enthusiasm to look after the permanent recruitment needs of some delightful yet demanding clients. If you are "people and service orientated", work well under pressure and rise to a challenge I would love to hear from you.....

Send your CV to Amanda Richardson
Drake International
11 South Molton Street, London W1Y 1HD Fax: 0171 495 2923.

SENIOR GRADUATE INVESTMENT BANKING SECRETARY

required by management selection co. To work as a researcher on investment banking projects must be proficient with powerpoint & W4W with 50/60wpm salary neg. + bonus, healthcare, life ass.

Call Ree Recruitment
0171 537 4114.

SECRETARIES

At all levels required by a major Blue Chip company based near Waterloo. Flexibility, versatility, and a sense of humour are essential for these demanding positions. If you are looking for a new challenge in a customer focused environment, please call

Angela Webster on
0171 202 3423.
MANPOWER PLC
(Emp Agy)

SECRETARY(PR)

The Maitland Consultancy specialises in providing high level corporate and financial communications advice to leading businesses across a range of industries.

An opportunity exists for an experienced, professional Secretary to work alongside a Senior Consultant and his team. The successful candidate must possess excellent word processing and audio skills, be highly organised and capable of working on their own initiative. A command of Word and Powerpoint is essential, as is the ability to work well within a team environment, often under pressure. Competitive salary with exceptional benefits. Age 25yrs+.

Please forward your CV to Fiona Spratling, The Maitland Consultancy, Orion House, 5 Upper St Martin's Lane, London WC2H 9EA.

SECRETARY

Secretary for Head Office of Blue Chip Company in the West End. Suit second jobber with audio typing, W4W and Amipro. Computer literacy, excellent organisational and communication skills a must.

Salary £15,000+.

Pam Greenwood Personnel
0181 995 1331.

PLEASE CALL 0171 373 7779
JIGSAW PERSONNEL

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
£18-24 S.W.1

Our client is an influential international management consultancy, a market leader with the highest standards. They are offering exciting careers to 3 exceptional PA's and a Production Advisor, all of whom must have professional secretarial backgrounds. These positions need pro-active self-starters who are solution orientated and who have advanced Powerpoint, W4W & Excel. Your ability to handle pressure and your 'can-do' mentality when coping with ever-changing priorities are essential. Age to 30yrs.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S PA
West London (Hounslow)
£19-22k + car parking

Our client requires a diplomatic and strong team player to assist in the running of this CE's office. You will work with him, his Exec Assistant and a team administrator to provide a first class support service.

Key skills: Board level experience, good admin ability, shorthand (80wpm) and IT literacy.

Please fax your CV to
Janette Teager & Associates
Human Resource Management Consultants
Fax: 0181 847 5208 Tel: 0181 568 5516

Personnel Administrator W1
Excellent Salary & Benefits

Are you pro-active, with excellent interpersonal skills and able to fulfil an important support role to the H.R. management team of a blue chip Plc?
Practical and organised, you must be well presented and able to deal with customers at all levels. 60wpm typing W4W, and Excel essential.

Ring NATASHA today on
0171 235 7114
An equal opportunity employer.

SUSAN HAMILTON PERSONNEL

CALLING All Ex. Hotel Receptionist.

£18K + Bank Bens. To work for large Int'l Bank. Prest. offices. Based on their conference floor. Resp. incl. greeting clients, booking mtg. rooms, org. refreshments, gen. duties. 2 years+ exp. in 4* hotel req. + 40wpm typing.

Paula, 0171 287 3664.
Next Employment.

A NEW CAREER IN RECRUITMENT?

Outgoing, resourceful 30s/40s offered an opportunity to learn the ropes of successful interviewing and recruitment at Covent Garden Bureau - one of London's largest established agencies. Ideal job for a busy all-rounder who enjoys making things happen. Start to £18,000 plus excellent profit share bonuses.

COVENT GARDEN BUREAU
8 MADDOX STREET LONDON W1R 9PN
0171 495 8822

THEATRICAL ENTREPRENEUR
c£19,000

Energetic PA for theatrical agent/entrepreneur. Need to be a self-starter, capable of holding the fort, developing the business and using initiative. Strong communicator with exceptional administrative skills - wonderful opportunity for a PA with ambition and flair. Preferred age: 22-35. Previous industry experience a bonus, shorthand (80ish wpm) and good typing.

TEL: 0171 499 6566
FAX: 0171 499 6320
GROSVENOR BUREAU

PUBLISHING c£22,000

Busy MD of publishing house requires efficient senior level PA. Usual senior level role requiring tact, diplomacy and initiative. Charming boss but needs organising. High admin content and own correspondence etc. Previous media/publishing background preferred. 90+wpm shorthand, good typing + Windows.

TEL: 0171 499 6566 FAX: 0171 493 6320
GROSVENOR BUREAU

SENIOR SEC - EC2
£20,000 + GREAT BENS.

Prestigious, commercial co. based in stunning City offices require experienced secretary to support fun but hardworking team. Variety of duties, lots of involvement, flexibility a must. 60wpm, W4W & good conversational French or German essential. Age 24-30.
Call Karin on 0171 636 0025.
(Beavers Rec Cons).

BEAVERS
Personnel Recruitment Consultants

FIRST CREME

2000 Jobbers Secretaries £17K PKG - Excl career opp. 2 yrs wk exp ess pref within Blue Chip ors. 50 wpm and W 4 W - Micky (PE AGY) 0171 287 3391

TEMPTING TIMES

ABSOLUTELY fabulous temping in the West End. We are a privately owned consultancy with a personal approach and friendly and interesting clients. We are currently looking for secretaries and receptionists to fill a variety of bookings. Competitive rates of pay. Call Jo Tennent at Human Doughty Recruitment on 0171 491 7911 NOW!

6 Months. PA/Sec'y required for this young & enterprising environment. A good sense of humour & positive outlook is a must together with excellent organisational skills to manage this friendly office. Initially for 6 months but could extend - May suit bright grad or mature candidate? 50+wpm, W6Win. Salary £14.5-17K AAE. Call Anderson Hoare (rec cons) 0171 824 8821.

2 months - £4,800 gross all found. Temp assignment in Libya for experienced Secretary, with UK/US engineering firm. Urgent. Multilingual Services rec cons 0171 930 4880.

POWERPOINT - Marketing. 4 months contract for a multinational drinks company. You will have advanced Powerpoint, experience in producing presentations and enjoy a creative environment. 60 wpm typing. The Recruitment Company 0171 831 1220.

TEMP at Director level - £10ph. Directors' Secretaries 0171 439 9323.

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

HUNGRY and enthusiastic? Want to earn what you are worth? Experienced temp controller, 24+ needed to join our City office. Generous salary package. Call Lyn Cecil of Secretaries Plus on 0171 377 8600 to discuss.

IMPECCABLE, stylish & beautifully spoken Receptionist / PA req. for world famous Central London travel Co. Don't miss this! £14,500. 0171 556 7075 fax 0171 556 7475 REF Agy.

PLC RECEPTIONIST *to £19,000 +* free lunch. An exceptional opening for a 'top of the tree receptionist/telephonist has arisen in a stunning corporate HQ. Your style, polish, confidence and good previous experience in a similar role will be appreciated. You will be very well spoken with a warm, helpful manner. Keyboard skills + Meridian a/b. Age to mid 20s. Please call 0171 637 3212 Sumsants by Two Rec Cons.

RECEPTIONIST (returner to work) for Battersea based designer ceramic tiles showrooms. Good communication skills essential for busy reception and switchboard. Typing useful. Ideal for local Mum, interested in Interior Design. £13,000. TJ OFFICE 0171 838 0023

RECEPTIONIST required for friendly medium sized Mayfair Property Consultants. Good telephone manner, presentation and sense of humour essential. Salary c£14,000. Contact Anne on 0171 491 7323.

SECRETARY
c£15.5k + exc. package

Make the break...top consultancy firm require an eager secretary who wants to develop and learn new skills. You only need one year's experience and a willingness to work in a team env.
Ref: 410792.

Call Nicola at Securior Recruitment Services
0171 247 7035.x

JOBSEARCH Manager (Part-time) for South Kensington training Co. Suit returner recruiting Graduates for intensive training programme covering IT and jobsearch activities. Organise and implement courses, jobsearch workshops and assessments, group and individual activities. Liaising with job centres, employers, recruitment agencies, plus general admin. IPD diploma essential, recruitment background useful. 4 days per week. £10,000 plus comm.
T.J. OFFICE 0171 838 0023.

STEP INTO YOUR 2ND SECRETARIAL ROLE -
c£15.5k + exc. package

Make the break...top consultancy firm require an eager secretary who wants to develop and learn new skills. You only need one year's experience and a willingness to work in a team env.
Ref: 410792.

Call Nicola at Securior Recruitment Services
0171 247 7035.x

SEN. TRAINING ADMINISTRATOR MAJOR INT. CO.
£20,000 + EX BENS

Involved position requiring ex. admin/organisational/communication skills to provide a training admin service + tec support to senior execs. A self starter with initiative + ex presentation sec asst. requisites. WP5.1 Lotus, Freelance graphics useful. Age 28yrs+.

Venture Plus Personnel
0171 493 5122

Keystone
PLACING PEOPLE FIRST

PA/Secretary

£17,000 + excellent package including Gym and 4½ day week in summer! Working for top American Corporation in Finchley.

Tel: 0181 883 8322 Keystone

Insurance Team Secretary
£19,500 PA + Bens

SH or speed writing/ industry E'ground essential. Ideal position for person returner or job not wanting a step up. Ex. perm & benefits. City Co.

Property PA/W1
£21,000 PA

Copy/Audio Traditional use in one role. Ideally property E'ground but not essential. Young dynamic partner.

Litigation Sec
£21,000 PA 77 + bens

Copy/Audio PA to mr partner steep exposure to marketing - City Practice.

Tel No 0171-284-4777
New Career Moves.

JULIA ROSS PERSONNEL
TEMPORARY BOOKINGS

Secretary W4W	Exciting Environment City 09/06/97 - ongoing
PA Apple Mac	Top Money/Blue Chip Co West End immediately - 3 weeks
Group Sec WP 5.1	Fabulous boss City 06/06/97 - 1 week
DTP P'Point	Fun team City 05/06/97 - 1 month

Please contact Rochelle on (0171) 836 5666 or Fax your C.V. (0171) 836 5566.

ADMINISTRATIVE CREME

CHAIRMAN'S Admin PA. £20K Neg + Bens. 1:1 extrovert role. Tons of involvement, variety + admin. 55wpm copy/Windows + pow. exc. level exp ess. Age 25-35. 2 mins walk W. Hampstead tube, train or bus station. Amanda G. Next Employment. 0171 287 3664.

ACTIVE Admin Sec. £16,500 + Exc Bens. 90% admin. Int'l Co. Involved role with lots of organising + client contact. 55wpm audio, exc communicat. skills + good std. of educ req. Amanda G. Next Emp. 0171 287 3664.

FIRST CREME

FIRST Job. Research Assistant for top city based bank. Must be PC literate and keen to use your brain. A stunning opportunity for a bright spark. Call Emily Aldrich 0171 588 8999 (rec cons)

ONE WEEK TO

THE TIMES Crème 11-13 JUNE 97

The Times Crème '97 is just one week away. If you haven't already arranged to visit the exhibition, or attend any of the seminars, now's the time to do it!

THE TIMES Crème 11-13 JUNE 97

You can meet representatives from 150 companies, attend informative seminars on a vast range of esential topics, and for some light entertainment, enjoy spectacular fashion shows.

THE TIMES Crème 11-13 JUNE 97

Experts will be on hand to offer advice on corporate hospitality, stationery, office equipment, business technology, hotels, conferences, recruitment, secretarial support, careers, training, promotions, incentives, despatch and distribution.

THE TIMES Crème 11-13 JUNE 97

The show is open from 10am to 5pm on Wednesday 11th June to Friday 13th June.

ENTRANCE IS FREE

and you can register on the door, on the day. There are still tickets available for many seminars on all three days of the show, and these can be purchased at the show, on a first-come, first-served basis. For full information on Crème '97, don't forget to read the Crème de la Crème supplement on Thursday 5th June.

UP TO £30,000 · EXCELLENT BENEFITS · BASED BASINGSTOKE

Behind every successful Director General is a super-efficient PA.

The Automobile Association is one of the largest organisations of its kind in the world. With interests ranging from roadside rescue and retailing to publishing and insurance, it is one of the best known and most diversified businesses in Britain today. And it's still growing. It's changing. And your challenge is to help our newly-appointed Director General to drive through a host of far-reaching initiatives and developments.

Your first priority will be to organise his working life. Diary management, for example, is critical. A complicated mix of internal and external meetings, overseas trips and other business functions make this very demanding. Do you have the maturity and experience to juggle the elements, plan complex itineraries and still maintain an unflappable manner?

Can you also lead by example? In any quality organisation, high standards have to start at the top before they can filter downwards. Your brief is to set an example, earn (rather than command) respect and encourage everyone to strive for excellence.

Organising and leading a small team to support the Director General and Chairman is a key part of this role. Drawing upon all your experience of working for a Chief Executive, you will be responsible for developing an efficient and highly professional office.

Can you confidently work with such senior managers? Would you like to be closely involved in all our exciting developments for the future? And, of course, do you have the vital technical credentials – good shorthand and audio speeds, and proven PC skills (ideally Word for Windows)?

It's a lot to expect. The pace of life is fast and uncompromising. There'll be a great deal of hard work and pressure not to mention some occasional long hours – these all come with the territory. But, in return, we guarantee a lot of appreciation, satisfaction, high-level involvement, responsibility, fun, real challenge and, of course, an excellent salary and benefits package.

Please write, in total confidence, quoting ref: 731, to: Alastair Lyon, Response Handling Service, Associates in Advertising, 5 St John's Lane, London EC1M 4BH.

AA

As an equal opportunity employer, we welcome applications from people in every part of the community

As sponsors, Angela Mortimer Plc are delighted to have invested in the very first all women's polar expedition. We would like to take this opportunity to offer our congratulations to those who completed this challenging venture.

PENGUIN

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

PA FLUENT FRENCH £30K - W-END
Working for the Chairman of this multinational IT Consultancy you will be a dynamic right hand. Assisting in all matters, you will administer and organise all aspects of his personal estate and business affairs. Experience at a similar level and a flexible approach to hours essential. Spanish a bonus.

PA FLUENT ARABIC AND FRENCH £21K - W-END
A true PA role now exists to assist the MD of the prestigious multinational company. You will possess exceptional writing and organisational skills and an ability to liaise with people at all levels.

PA FLUENT GERMAN c£20K - FRANKFURT
This world leading automanufacturing company is now seeking a PA to work with the MD of their European HQ in Germany. You will be a true professional with a project orientated focus and creative flair.

Please call Rebecca Oehrle direct on 0171 447 5548.
A division of Graduate Appointments

LINK LANGUAGE appointments
7a Langley Street London WC2H 9JA
Facsimile 0171 379 0113

FRENCH MARKETING
Dir of Mkting seeks c/leaver Fre bil sec for 'hands on' role. Assist with mkting project, press releases et al. Solid typ/PC skills. £13K + bens
LANGUAGE MATTERS AGY
Tel: 0171 930 1811
Fax: 0171 925 0056

AMSTERDAM!
Dutch bil Sec for Amsterdam office of major Int'l co. Gd communication & org. skills, solid sec exp req. c.£20-24K neg.
Language Recruitment Services
0171 287 0424

THE BODY SHOP
With over 1,500 shops in 47 countries, The Body Shop is a skin and hair care company committed to animal and environmental protection and respect for human rights.

PA
with French and Spanish
£16,000 - £20,000
Sussex Coast

Our Head of Communications for global operations needs the skilled, creative and dedicated support of an experienced PA.

This will be a challenging and rewarding career opening, requiring a flexible approach and excellent interpersonal skills. Previous experience in a similar position, preferably within a Communications area, is desirable; fluent written and verbal French and Spanish are essential; German would be valuable.

If you have excellent secretarial skills, plenty of initiative, energy and common sense, as well as the desire to be part of this dynamic area of the Company, please apply, quoting reference ML, to: Multilingual Services, 56 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4RN. Telephone: 0171 930 4880. Fax: 0171 839 6756

We welcome applications from suitably qualified people from all sections of the community, regardless of race, age, religion, gender or disability.

Multilingual services

DESIGNER DREAMS £15,000
Specialist luxury design company seek receptionist for their ultra chic W.1. showroom. Plenty of client liaison with interior designers & the discerning public. Excellent presentation & basic keyboard skills. Age 22-35 yrs.
Norma Skemp Recruitment: 0171 222 5091

PA/SEC FRENCH BANK £20K + BONUS + D/T + BANK BENS
Lots of Client contact in this position, working for a charming fun boss. Work on core initiatives. Fluent French - English mother tongue + Powerpoint W4W, Bank exp. an adv.
Courtney & Company 0171 834 6000. Agy

BILINGUAL PUBLISHING
Wonderful opp for sec with 6mths exp & Fre or Spa. Provide 1-1 support & get fully involved in research, admin, mkt. Suit bright team player. £12K + bens.
LANGUAGE MATTERS AGY
Tel: 0171 930 1811
Fax: 0171 925 0056

A Secretary with Russian - £20,000 + pep + life insur + priv health to work for a young lively team dealing with Eastern Europe. Exciting company and expanding group based in the West End - lots of client contact and admin as well as supporting the team travel arrangements and gathering info and research. 50wpm typing with some sec/office experience (6 mths min) together with a friendly, outgoing, bright personality is what they're looking for. Good English & Russian (written/spoken) is essential. If you're 20+ with a "can do" attitude and a sense of humour, call us right away. Maine-Tucker 0171 734 7341.

DUTCH/GERMAN PA/Mktg. Asst. req. for City Financial co. £10 p/hour. Start ASAP. TEL (0171) 329 2196 FAX (0171) 248 0073 MULTILINGUAL REC. SOLUTIONS.

BILINGUAL German Sec for German team in top Int'l bank. Lots of German use, busy, dynamic environment. £19k + bank bens. Language Recruitment Services 0171 287 0424.

FRENCH m/t standard and accurate typing for 6 month assignment. Multilingual Services 0171 930 4880.

£25,000 - Fluent in German, exec PA with shorthand for W1 Chairman. Age 28 plus. Sheila Childs Rec. 0171 437 3111.

GERMAN spkg posts London proof reader/DTP £17k W.1. Magazine trainee buyer store chain £25k + car S.W. Lond. Cavell Agy 01273-672070

FRANKFURT: 2 Bilingual Secs urgently req'd for Int'l lawyers. Also open to college-leavers with degree-level German + 50wpm WP/Word. 4200-4700 DM pa. Apply ASAP. Regular interviews London. Sheila Burgess Int'l. Tel 0171 584 4446 or 0171 404 Paris 0033 1 44 63 02 57/59.

PA/ Assistant. Entrepreneurial Trader requires an Assistant. Must speak fluent French, advanced knowledge of Excel, bonding knowledge and flexible in location of job. Summer spent in the South of France £20-25K T.J. Office 0171 638 0023

PARIS - T.M. Int'l has opportunities for Eng MT bilingual secs. 1) Int'l FMCG seeks fully bilingual Personnel Assistant. 150 KF. 2) Prestigious Consulting Firm seeks Personnel Assistant. 175 KF. 3) Top Television Company seeks Junior Sec. Salary up to 140 KF. Fax your CV today on 00 33 1.47.42.18.87

WORLDWIDE Telecommunications company offers involved temporary to permanent role as PA within International Relations. Are you outgoing, thrive in a lively, proactive role and speak a European language? If so call Justine Pirra on 0171 390 7000. Cross Cockill Rec Cons.

SUBSO-CROAT Sec/PA to assist MD and Marketing dept. of city based finance co. £12-14,000. TEL (0171) 329 2196 FAX (0171) 248 0073 MULTILINGUAL REC. SOLUTIONS.

SPANISH speaking secretary with outgoing personality to assist Senior Executive of a prestigious wine co. You will be constantly liaising with overseas distributors, dealing with clients & managing a busy diary. Good promotional prospects £16,000 + bens. 0171 493 2888 Heritage Rec.

EURO LONDON APPOINTMENTS

PA/SECRETARY – GERMAN £22K + BKNG BENS
Exciting and varied trading floor position, with the emphasis on admin. Lively self starter with energy, ambition and excellent interpersonal skills. W4W, Excel, Powerpoint. Typing 55 wpm.

TEAM SECS – EUROPEAN LANGUAGES £20K++
If you want to work within a prestigious city institution, have superb secretarial skills and legal or banking experience, then our client has a number of excellent opportunities for you. Lotus Smartsuite and Windows packages essential.

FRENCH FRANCS – SEC – £20K + BKNG BENS
On your marks, get set, GO! US City Bank urgently requires a motivated Secretary to work with Debt. Markets. Previous city experience essential. Word, Excel, Powerpoint.

BRAZILIAN SECRETARY – £15K + BKNG BENS
Excellent opportunity awaits a secretary with city experience and good secretarial skills in a prestigious investment bank. Immediate start. W4W, Excel.

JAPANESE ASSISTANTS (x2) £NEG
Our client has vacancies for fluent Japanese speakers with excellent MS Word, Excel. (Part-time and full-time positions).

BILINGUAL TEMPS URGENTLY REQUIRED
Various bilingual temp assignments immediately available in City/Docklands.

Tel: 0171 583 0180 Fax: 0171 353 9849
1 HARE PLACE, 47 FLEET STREET, EC4Y 1BJ
e-mail: elaffect@dial.pipex.com

LANGUAGE MATTERS

BILINGUAL BONAZA (REC CONS)

FOCUS ON FRENCH £22K + excl bens
Two fluent m high flying exec of top City bank req on-the-ball Fre bil sec to cop their busy day. Ability to absorb pressure, liaise at all levels & carry-out a hyndsom role.

TRADE IN YOUR GERMAN £21K + excl bens
The leading desk for the German mkts req Ger bil sec for banks, insurance & service. Constant liaison with Euro colleagues. Young & friendly team - and training! Typ/PC skills.

ITALIAN STYLE... £19K + OT + excl bens
Stylish PA/Sec with fl Ita sought by for Exec of growing int'l bank. High level client hospitality& liaison & coord 3 Mgrs. Calm poof team player with good PC skills req.

MADRID...LONDON...NEW YORK... £18-21K + excl bens
Three posts based in London but linking world-wide in Spanish. Use yr C Spa. excl sec skills together with yr ability to org for Mgrs & keep them wld fm dfm.

LONDON...OLYMPIA...LA CREME SUPER
Come & see us on Stand G16 from 11-13 June at Crème 97 - The Executive Sec Show!

PS...Dutch Part-time Sec. French or Dutch Credit Controller

TEL: 0171 930 1811
FAX: 0171 925 0056
20 EARLANSGATE PL.
LONDON, WC2N 4AN

BILINGUAL SECRETARIES 20-25k. We urgently require secretaries with good skills and fluency in either German, French or Spanish. Top Companies to work for including two of the most successful Int'l Investment Banks in the City. For more information please call: Cross Selection Tel: 0171 377 6600 fax: 0171 377 6699.

FLUENT French S/co German, SW1 PA to a Director role involving all round sec duties & extensive client liaison. SH essl. c£21,000neg Call Wendy, La Crème Cons, 0171-420 8008.

BILINGUAL Spanish or French (to M/T end) Editor/Project Mgr for Communications Div. of prestige Int'l Co. Regular o'seas travel, liaison & research duties. In-house freelance post (p/t). PR/publications exp ess. c.£22k+/-. Language Recruitment Services 0171 287 0424.

RUSSIAN Speaking Sec with good skills (Typing 50 wpm and W4W) and an outgoing personality urgently required for expanding team in Holborn. £18K + hectic social life! Call Anna on 0171 734 8484 Pan European Rec Cons.

SUPER SECRETARIES

ONE TO ONE £23,000
Liaising daily with the smart & successful this International headhunters offers the chance to assist a director whilst working sociable hours. You will have a professional, confident manner & steady career preferably in a service industry & exp of W4W, P'Point. Age 26-35yrs
Norma Skemp Recruitment: 0171 222 5091

KNIGHTSBRIDGE PR £14-16,000.
Top PR team need brilliant organiser/secretary to co-ordinate & keep them running smoothly & efficiently. Travel, diaries, meetings, events, liaising client/media, research, PowerPoint presentations. A fabulous position for someone who enjoys responsibility & being the lynch pin & really involved. No budding Execs! Call Brindley-Clark Assoc 0171 734 9821 or fax 0171 734 9828.

SECRETARY Busy, small firm of Chartered Surveyors requires bright, efficient secretary. Working primarily for three partners, must have good audio typing (MS Word), excellent telephone manner & willingness to assist in the running of the office. Salary £18,500 pa. Send written applications to John Boon, Boon Godbold, 9-12 Basinghall Street, EC2V 5BQ.

SECRETARY with Marketing experience for a well established medical practice in the West End. This is a varied job with alot of contact with people in a very busy office. Medical experience is not needed but you should have worked in a marketing environment and like alot of chaos. Salary £17K negotiable. Ring 0171 935 2617.

SECRETARY with sense of humour req'd W.1. Good W4W. 18k +. Urgent vacancy. Notice period acceptable. 20+ yrs. Tobias Rec. 0171 493 4993.

SHORTHAND Secretary, package to 21K + Benefits, for Corporate Finance department of prestigious city firm. Well presented, customer focused with a flexible and professional approach, providing support to a busy team. Diamond Personnel 0171 929 2977

SMR PA £20k Lgs retail co wkg for charming IT Director. Exc prospects/bonuses MSW4W & smart presentation ess. Call 0171 494 4020 WF Agy.

SMR PA £16k + PRP + Bonus Extremely involved role, wkg for charming Partner. Organise seminars etc. MSW4W/audio. Call 0171 494 4020 WF Agy.

SOUTH Bucks x2 Sec excellent Admin & Comm skills £14K 01494-433346 (Agy)

SW3 Chelsea near Sloane Square. Small busy general medical practice. MS Word, good typing and small business skills essential. Full time 32 hours with 2 half days finishing at 1pm. £14,000 0171 7362734.

TIP TOP Calthe Secs £20K + Bens Top city firm req excl PA/Sec for Mgmt Cons Div W? 6.1 and 65 wpm ess - Nicky (FR AGY) 0171 287 3391

TV Writer/Director requires good PA. Intelligence and appearance more important than experience. Please Reply to Box No 5380

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

RECRUITMENT Consultant - OE14000 + commission. We're a well-established central London secretarial consultancy needing another impressive trainee consultant. Essentials: intuition, warm 'people person', good education, immaculate presentation and a gift for no-pushy sales. Age 21-25. Please write enclosing CV. Box number 5428.

NON-SECRETARIAL

MANAGER or temp controller from any recruitment discipline or anyone with a background combining sales and childcare urgently required to take London's leading babysitting service through its next expansion phase. No cold calling, and no previous knowledge of this sector required: but ambition, drive, integrity, imagination and above all a sense of humour are all essential. Pay to surpass current earnings to a maximum 20k + comm + car. Personnel Recruitment tel 0171 935 8247 or fax 0171 224 0305

LETTINGS & SALES NEGOTIATORS

TRAINEE Negotiator. Prest. Estate Agents. Kennington. Car + basic + shared comm. To join residential lettings team. Ex opp for self starter. Age 24++. Call Venture Plus Personnel 0171 493 5122.

SALES NEGOTIATOR
required for smart Fulham Estate Agency with two busy offices. The applicant must be an intelligent self-starter with lots of energy and initiative to complement our young, hard working team. Competitive package offered.
Call 0171 381 4888 - Ref. SA
No Agents

PART TIME VACANCIES

PART-TIME receptionists required. Hours 8 am - 1pm or 1pm - 6pm. International company based in smart office in Mayfair. Basic secretarial skills required for overflow typing and administration. Salary £10-12,000 depending on experience. Please contact Sue Garwood on 0171 434 4512 Rec Cons.

PART-TIME Receptionist/ Typist/ Computer input person required. Min 25 hours per week @ £8 p/h. Flexible timetable. Small property management co in SW1. Ring Nicholas Horne on 0171 932 0101.

PROFILES

INTERNATIONALLY experienced Sec/P.A (with shorthand) language, seeks p/t or f/t position in private house/office. Willing to be companion, drive etc. Impeccable refs. Tel: 0171 228 6072 (after 6pm).

EXECUTIVE Secretary available for short or medium term assignments in Central London, City or Docklands. Proficient in W4W, knowledge of Sage and other software packages. Tel/Fax: 0171-474 2547

LEGAL LA CRÈME

A Superb opp. to join prestigious City law firm. Exp. legal secs or accountancy secs req. Ugently. Fabulous offices and benefits. £21,000 (AAE) Francine PA. Agy Tel: 0171 287 3391 Fax: 0171 494 3637.

SUPER SECRETARIES

FULHAM - A property company seeks a bubbly secretary to join their team. Good opportunity for a college leaver or 2nd jobber to expand on their secretarial skills. 40wpm typing, bright and sunny outlook is all that is needed for this fun office. Age 19-25yrs. c£16k. Interested then call Susanna Hargreaves on 0171 434 4512 Cross Cockill Rec Cons.

FULHAM, CREATIVE SEC 18,000+bens. Super opportunity for capable administrator to organise busy, 50wpm/Bil/W4W/Windows, side-desk Jeffers Rec 0171 287 2044/Fax 287 3717.

GLOBAL Oil Company - Temp to Perm opportunities - Registrar projective, team based, multitasking Secretaries to work for various dynamic teams. You will need good MS Office and a desire to succeed. Please call Angela Mortimer plc on 0171 287 7788.

HAMLOW - Personnel Admin sec req for busy dept. within exciting successful Co. Team player and "People's person" ess. 0171 556 7075 fax 0171 5567476 BRY Agy.

INTERNATIONAL Financial Magazine seeks Office Manager/PA for small dynamic office. Must be highly computer literate. Please call 0171 420 0334 or fax CV to 0171 497 5494.

INT'L Film/TV Sales Company, Camden Town, seeks poised, motivated, detail-oriented exec ass't to MD. Microsoft Office (Inc Access, Excel) required, French or other language a plus. £16-17K. CV (no calls) Louise Rosen Ltd, Unit 10/Cameron House, 12 Castlehaven Road, London NW1 8QW.

JNR SECS £11-15K. Various positions, all offering exc prospects and regular salary reviews. 60wpm/Audio and WP. Call 0171 494 4020 WF Agy.

£22K + Bkng Bens. Docklands: We currently have several vacancies for first class secretaries with drive, professionalism and flexibility. Deluxe offices, exceptional benefits W4W/Powerpoint. Tel: 0171-583-0180.

LEGAL SEC - Partner a West End Partner. For the "Conveyancing Loving Sec" who likes to handle their own files and citizens. £23,00ish + perks. BRY Agy 0171 556 7076 fax 0171 556 7475.

LEGAL SEC - MEDIA LAW for zippy EC4 firm. Ideal if you're seeking your 2nd legal job. £21,000 + sacks of perks. 0171 556 7075 Fax 0171 556 7475.

LIVERPOOL STREET c£21,000 This Investment House is looking for a Forex Designer. You must be able to work on your own initiative, be a good communicator and have excellent IT skills. Experience of Word/Draw/Paintbrush are essential and a Unit Trust background would be preferred. This is an ideal opportunity to move away from a secretarial career. Please call Kia Felton-Smith at Cross Cockill Rec Cons 0171 390 7000.

LONDON Bridge PA to Banking Director £19,000 plus many benefits. Directors' Secretaries 0171 629 9323.

LORD LESTER of Herne Hill QC requires a secretary/office manager to cover maternity leave with a possible view to permanency if the vacancy arises. The candidate must have fast accurate typing, shorthand (80wpm), WP 5.1 and Word 97. Some knowledge of Internet and book-keeping helpful. Must be organised, show initiative and be able to prioritise. Salary £18-19,000 pro rata. CV, to Lynne Wilson, Office of Lord Lester QC, 18-20 Outer Temple, 222 Strand, London WC2 1BA.

MAYFAIR SALON £14,000. Join this friendly and successful team, working in a busy reception area. Smart presentation, professional attitude and excellent customer service skills essential. Middleton Jeffers Rec 0171 287 2044/Fax 287 3717.

OFFICE Manager/pa - 23K. Based in the headquarters of a large blue chip company, you will be responsible for the smooth running of the offices from supervising staff to managing a budget. In addition you will be working closely with a new director providing administrative support. Skills: good IT skills and 50wpm. Please call Angela Mortimer plc on 0171 287 7788.

OFFICE Manager wanted for busy Islington garden design office. Computer literate, self motivated, £18,000. Phone Maria 0181 800 9363.

PA's in PR c£17k. 4 top PR consultancies, require PA secretaries with 1 year + secretarial experience to work for young, busy teams. Good phone skills for journalist liaison, good pref reading skills for checking copy and the ability to prioritise under pressure for event organising are essential for this interesting, varied role with scope to undertake diff/sensit projects. If you are well presented, A level/degree educated with 50 wpm typing, please call LISA KELLY at MEDIAN RECRUITMENT ON 0171 637 1078 or fax 323 0719.

PA to Director of "Top 5" investment bank. We need an above average senior level person who will also assist the Director's team of three. Banking exp. not essential. Shorthand 90wpm £30k package. 0171 493 2888 Heritage Rec.

PRIVATE PA/Secretary required to work for a young property entrepreneur based near Basingstoke and to assist him in the administration of several family businesses and charities. Must be numerate, have excellent people handling skills and be able to work without supervision. Skills 80/60. Accommodation on the estate available or could commute. Salary package £20-25k ass. Fax your CV's to Maryanne Lane at Angela Mortimer Plc (Rec Cons) on 0171 814 0801.

PUBLISHING PA c£16k + bens for major society, previous exp within a publishing environ pref - Diamond Personnel 0171 929 2977.

PUBLISHING Secs - Are You On Our Books? Covent Garden Bureau 0171 495 8822.

SECRETARY for small, friendly firm of Chartered Surveyors in West End. W4W, Excel and audio essential. Shorthand. Tel: Sarah Croft 0171 629 0909. No agencies.

SECRETARY required for busy plastic surgery practice in Harley Street (Tuesday 9-6, Friday 9-1, and also to cover for holidays etc). Must be experienced in Word for Windows. Please Reply to Box No 5307

THE Landscape Partnership Job-share 2 days/wk in Docklands office. Varied duties: admin WP4.0, chase, to support team of 4, who sometimes work to tight deadlines. Good manner and flexibility ess. £14,500 p.a.pro.rata. 0171 515 4188.

VICTORIA - £20,000 pro rata - PA/Admin 3 days pr for upmarket Executive Search Co. Flexible attitude, initiative + well presented. Grosvenor Bureau 0171 499 6566.

SECRETARY P.A. To Chairman - we are a busy Architectural / planning practice and require an organised, mature person with 5 years experience in a similar role; shorthand 70wpm, typing speed 80wpm. 6 month contract initially. Please send your CV to Janet Enright, The Halpern Partnership, Leonard House, 9-15 Leonard Street, London EC2A 4HP Closing date 13 June.

MEDICAL SECRETARIES

MEDICAL SECRETARY/PA
A stimulating and challenging job working as a team in a busy West End practice, for a young (23-35) well spoken, computer literate, efficient medical secretary with a sense of humour and cheerful personality. Excellent salary with ability. Ring Sandra on
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Legal Department
Central London
Salary £14,320 pa

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FINE WINES £20,000. As PA to MD of world famous French company, you will have lots of involvement in this new role which is wide open for development. Would suit polished, well groomed person with excellent communication skills. Good spoken French essential. 50/60 skills + audio. Skills in Word down needed. Age 30-45. Please call 0171 637 3212 Summers by Two Rec Cons.

£20,000 for Professional PA for the MD of City Securities House, sh/W4W. Apply Hobsrowe Directors' Sec 0171 629 9323.

SECRETARIES: Rapidly expanding firm of Central London Estate Agents seek competent and personable secretaries with good typing speeds and a pleasant manner. Circa £16,000-17,500. Ref. PB/SL 0171 243 132.

GOLF: AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP ATTRACTS COSMOPOLITAN FIELD

Brooks and Howard face international challenge

By John Hopkins
Golf Correspondent

THERE are only a few occasions in a Ryder Cup year when one can justifiably lift one's gaze from the professional tour, but this week is one of them. Now that 36 holes of strokeplay at Royal Cinque Ports, Deal, and Royal St George's, Sandwich, have whittled the starting field of nearly 300 competitors down to 64, the matchplay stages of the Amateur Championship begin this morning over the distinguished links of Royal St George's. This gives an opportunity to watch men who, in the main, pay to play golf instead of being paid to play.

The Ryder Cup, in September, makes this year a special one for the professionals; it is no less so for the amateurs, because the Walker Cup that was won at Royal Porthcawl in 1995 is being defended against the United States at Quaker Ridge, New York State, in August. The 1997 Amateur may be one of the most international ever, with players from 23 countries.

Almost regardless of what happens at Sandwich, which has been battered by fierce winds these past few days, some names are already pencilled in for the team that will travel to the United States in August. These include the quartet who were regarded as the four best amateurs in the British Isles when they were selected to compete in the Eisenhower Trophy last November — Michael Brooks and Barclay Howard, the Scots, Keith Nolan, of Ireland, and Gary Wolstenholme, of England.

Nolan, who is at college in the United States, is not competing here, but Brooks, the son of Andrew Brooks, the professional at Royal St George's, added a 71 at Royal Cinque Ports to his 76 at St George's for the tidy total of 147. Brooks dropped three strokes early on, but got them back with successive birdies at the 15th, 16th and 17th. Brooks was one stroke ahead of Howard, whose putting had improved sufficiently for him to return a 72 at Deal after a 76 at St George's.

"I played much better today," Howard said. "In the first round, my putting was chronic. This is the fourth Amateur I have played in and I have been in the last 16 twice, but I won't get far this year unless my putting improves."

Wolstenholme, however, surprisingly failed to get beyond the strokeplay stage. The only former Amateur champion in the field, he ballooned to an 87 in the wind at Cinque Ports and could do no better than a 79 at St George's.

When Wolstenholme won the Berkshire Trophy in May, he did so thanks to a stirring finish of par, par, birdie — and knowing that he had to cover those three holes in one under par to win — but the weather was different then, sunshine and little wind, and Wolstenholme's lack of length may have found him out in the windy conditions and more difficult courses of this week. Graham Rankin is a certainty for the Walker Cup team after two victories, one in the Lytham Trophy, and a second place in three amateur events this season. He is big and strong and has played better this year than ever before. He single-putted his last six holes at St George's for a 74, which gave him a total of 153.

"I didn't mind being three over after four holes," Rankin said, "because I knew I could get them back later." Jody Fanagan, like Rankin, a member of the victorious Walker Cup side of two years ago, had a 75 at Deal to qualify comfortably on 151.

Also in the team will be David Park, the Welshman, who won the La Manga Masters earlier this year and the Brabazon Trophy at Saunton last month. Park concluded an impressive weekend's work with a 65 that equalled the course record at Saunton and broke the previous best Brabazon score by six strokes.

Alastair Forsyth, the Scottish strokeplay champion, was unable to match his play in the first round. A 71 at St George's when the wind was at its strongest, was an impressive score. He had a 78 at Deal yesterday.

DETAILS

EARLY LEADING SCORES — SECOND-ROUND

148: S Hoey (Portrush Castle) 76, 72.
152: P Sharples (Bemuir Woodes) 76, 76. N Fanchini (Italy) 75, 77.
153: G Robson (Ruddington) 74, 79. T Immelman (SA) 74, 79.
154: B McKenzie (Burnt Moor) 80, 74.
155: C Dwyer (Porter Pool) 78, 77. I Rusby (Surr) 75, 80.
156: M King (Tyrrell Hall) 82, 74. R Quinn (Sal) 81, 75. J Carlton (Windlestraw) 77, 79.
157: K Ekwall (Ekw) 74, 83. P Watkins, F Jackson 75, 82.
158: G Storm (Wokingham Park) 76, 82. N Richardson (Worksop) 82, 76. H Swarbrick (Wrington) 79, 79. D Dixon (Sal) 76, 82. D Robertson (Dunbar) 75, 83.

LEADERS AFTER THE FIRST QUALIFYING ROUND Royal St George's: 70: M Canon (Whitbarn). 71: A Forsyth (Ratho). 72: P Nelson (Renishaw Park). 73: R Hedley (NF), D Hanks (Shrewsbury). 74: Immelman. 75: J Pepperell (Hinckley), S Little (Moor Park), S Hemingway (Ashford Manor), A Wainwright (Garforth), J M Lara (Spl), M Smith (US), R Duck (Northamptonshire County), P Neels (Ger).

Royal Cinque Ports: 76: M Canon (Whitbarn). 77: A Forsyth (Ratho). 78: P Nelson (Renishaw Park). 79: R Hedley (NF), D Hanks (Shrewsbury). 74: Immelman. 75: J Pepperell (Hinckley), S Little (Moor Park), S Hemingway (Ashford Manor), A Wainwright (Garforth), J M Lara (Spl), M Smith (US), R Duck (Northamptonshire County), P Neels (Ger).

ADRIAN SHERRATT

Chris Nickens, of the United States, plays out of a bunker at the 14th at Royal Cinque Ports, Deal, yesterday

COMPANY GOLF DAYS RESULTS

The four top scores in the individual Stableford competitions played on the company golf days listed below now comprise the company team eligible to qualify for a regional final.

TITLE SPONSOR Mees Pierson

Date	Company name	Venue	Score
15 APR	DONNS SOLICITORS R DONN 27 D MORD 37 I LEVY 39 D SAMUELS 39	MERE G & CC	142
23 APR	BRITISH MIDLAND J FOSTER 24 * M GOLDSWORTHY 39 * P WHITE 39 * P HAYES 36	MOORTOWN	138
23 APR	MEMOREX TELEX R MCCOLGAN 32 P BRADLEY 29 * A MCCOLGAN 37 * R BURTON 33	SONNING	131
24 APR	IMPERIAL TOBACCO A ACHESON 33 * S CULLEN 38 * M ROURKE 38 * J DAVIS 38	LISBURN	147
24 APR	STARTERS OF BIRMINGHAM J BATEY 22 * J PIKE 41 * J BURCHELL 35 * J ELIAS 33	HANDSWORTH	131
26 APR	LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES EXCHANGE J LYONS 37 G SIMPSON 36 P BANFIELD 34 P WATKINSON 34	HATFIELD LONDON COUNTRY CLUB	140
1 MAY	N H S WALES L HARDING 35 W JAMES 37 D BULL 35 J HEALY 35	CELTIC MANOR	142
1 MAY	CREDIT AGRICOLE D BARROWS 36 * S CHAPMAN 33 * E ANDREWS 31 * M GOATER 27	WENTWORTH	121
8 MAY	GODWINS LIMITED P WATSON 32 J DAWSON 33 D JAMES 34 * R WILSON 33	WEST HILL	132
8 MAY	JLS - UNISYS (IRE-1) S TRACEY 34 M GERAGHERTY 38 B O'SULLIVAN 32 J DARGAN 31	ADARE MANOR	138
8 MAY	JLS - UNISYS (IRE-2) J LYNCH 26 M COFFEY 30 E MORONEY 29 C O'BYRNE 28	ADARE MANOR	113
9 MAY	MS SELECTION M SMITH 24 N BIGSY 32 * C SILLINCE 31 * R EDWARDS 31	WEST HILL	118
12 MAY	RICHARDSONS INTERIORS D BILLIER 23 * N CROCKETT 32 * P MCCLEAN 30 * N MULLAN 29	ORMEAU	114
14 MAY	MACE & JONES GRUNDY KERSHAW I HODGKINSON 36 * G GRAHAM 36 * G GARNER 37 * A TAYLOR 35	HESWALL	148
15 MAY	LONDON METAL EXCHANGE GOLF ASSOCIATION J PORTEOUS 37 D HARDY 34 K WHITEHEAD 33 B SMITH 35	SUNDRIDGE PARK	144
15 MAY	GRAHAM TATFORD & CO LTD M YOUNG 32 M GORDON 32 * T LEACH 35 * C HEBRING 32	BOTLEY PARK HOTEL & CC	131
15 MAY	VOLCLAY LIMITED P THORPE 27 * D HILL 36 * G HOPKINS 29 * J WILLIAMS 29	BREADSALL PRIORY	115
16 MAY	MCGREGOR BOYALL ASSOCIATES K DAVEY 39 * C GOYMER 38 * T PULLEN 35 * A PRINCE 36	DUKES DENE	149
16 MAY	H M LAND REGISTRY C AUSTIN 33 M SMITH 36 M DAVY 36 L BAILEY 36	PIKE HILLS	147
16 MAY	ANGLIAN WATER M HORNER 39 J BUNN 37 S WILSON 36 G KEMP 33	JOHN O'GAUNT	145
16 MAY	CONOCO (JET) LTD P GALBRAITH 37 G PULHAM 35 D ALLARDYCE 33 T HUDSON 32	LEAMINGTON COUNTY	137
16 MAY	HANCOCKS HOLDINGS LTD R FULLER 29 G IRONS 35 * M SIDDAL 36 * J HARRISON 35	ROTHLEY PARK	135
16 MAY	BAIN HOGG S SHELGROVE 35 P CAMPBELL 33 A KEATES 31 M PEARSON 30	HASSOCKS	129
16 MAY	ICI POLYURETHANES T KNAPTON 32 S REEDER 31 P PARKER 31 N COLLINS 29	OAKDALE (HARROGATE)	123
18 MAY	HOLLAND & SHERRY D SCOTT 37 * M FORSYTH 39 * J LOGAN 36 * M ANDERSON 33	PEEBLES	145
19 MAY	SOUTHERN ENGLAND CUSTOMS & EXCISE P BOWE 33 J BOWE 35 I PORTER 33 N DUNFORD 33	CORHAMPTON	139
28 MAY	E K WILLIAMS LIMITED C DUMBLETON 41 J WHITEHEAD 32 M SINCLAIR 32 * P MAY 32	TEMPLE	137
28 MAY	SHERWIN OLIVER SOLICITORS S WRIGHT 29 * J LYON 38 * T MURE 32 * J BUTT 30	ROWLANDS CASTLE	129
28 MAY	QUILTER & CO LTD S CLOW 31 C PAIN 30 T MASON 35 J McLINTK 31	THE BERKSHIRE	127

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2 FAXBACK ON 0660 600667
3 ACCESS THE INTERNET SITE ON http://www.golfiaday.co.uk/timescorpgolf/

National Final shown on Sky Sports

TENNIS: FRENCH OPEN

Men

Singles

Quarter-finals

G Kuerten (Br) bt Y Kafelnikov (Russ) 6-2, 5-7, 2-6, 6-0, 6-4
F Dewulf (Bel) bt M Norman (Swe) 6-2, 6-7, 6-4, 6-3

Doubles

Third round

L Arnold and D Orsanic (Arg) bt O Delaitre and F Santoro (Fr) 7-6, 6-1

Mixed doubles

Quarter-finals

H Sukova and C Suk (Cz) bt M Oremans and H J Davids (Holl) 6-2, 6-3
R Hiraki (Japan) and M Bhupathi (India) bt A Kournikova (Russ) and M Knowles (Bah) 7-5, 6-0
L Raymond and P Galbraith (US) bt R McQuillan and D MacPeherson (Aus) 6-3, 6-4

Third round

Kournikova and M Knowles bt B Rittner and K Braasch (Ger) 6-4, 1-6, 7-5
Raymond and Galbraith bt K Rinaldi-Stunkel and T Honeimann (US) 6-3, 6-3
M Hollingsl (Holl) and R Leach (US) bt M Paz and P Albano (Arg) 6-2, 3-6, 6-2
McQuillan and McPherson bt P Tarabini and J Franco (Arg) 6-2, 7-5

Women

Singles

Quarter-finals

I Majoli (Cro) bt R Dragomir (Rom) 6-3, 5-7, 6-2
A Coetzer (SA) bt S Graf (Ger) 6-1, 6-4
M Seles (US) bt M J Fernandez (US) 3-6, 6-2, 7-5

Doubles

Third round

G Fernandez (US) and N Zvereva (Bela) bt H Nagyova (Slovakia) and P Schnyder (Switz) 6-4, 6-2
M J Fernandez and L Raymond (US) bt E Callens (Bel) and G Helgeson Nielsen (US) 4-6, 6-3, 6-4

FOR THE RECORD

AUSTRALIAN RULES

AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE: Adelaide 16 9 (105) bt Fremantle 10 12 (72)

BALLROOM DANCING

BLACKPOOL: British Open championships: Amateur Latin: 1, M Cutler and N Cutler (Eng); 2, M Wontrik and Beata (SA); 3, H Mische and C Egstrand (Den). 4, A Skufca and K Venturini (Slovenia); 5, M Kraljec and J Kosel (Slovenia); 6, M Torres and S Kramski (Ger). Amateur modern: 1, C Hawkins and H Newberry (Eng), 2, A Shingler and D Shingler (Eng), 3, W Pino and A Buccarelli (It), 4, J Crossley and K Jones (Eng); 5, R Villa and M Barry (Eng), 6, A Firmo and M Cerca (It). Professional Latin: 1, J Haapalainen and S Suutari (Fin), 2, B Watson and K Hardy (Eng), 3, H Galke and B Schreiber (Ger); 4, P Killick and V [illegible] (Eng); 5, A Tornsberg and Carmen (Gor); [illegible] J Gillison and P Roby (Aus). Professional modern: 1, M Hilton and K Hilton (Eng), 2, L Barlochi and L Barry (Eng), 3, H Tanaka and A Preston (Japan), 4, A Sinkinson and C Jorgenson (Eng), 5, K Ryget and C Ryget (Nor); 6, F Selmi and S Fancello (It)

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: New York Yankees 5 Boston 2; Chicago White Sox 8 Milwaukee 5, Texas 8 Minnesota 0; Detroit 8 Oakland 7, Seattle 3 Toronto 0.
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Florida 4 San Francisco 2; San Diego 5 Atlanta 4, Montreal 10 New York Mets 0; Chicago Cubs 3 Pittsburgh 2, Houston 2 Los Angeles 0; Colorado 11 St Louis 7

BOXING

BELFAST: Commonwealth cruiserweight championship: D Corbett (Belfast) ko C Okoh (Croydon) 3rd rnd. Irish heavyweight championship (vacant): K McBride (Clones) bt P Douglas (Belfast) rsc 5th rnd. Light-welter: E Magee (Belfast) bt K McKillion (Manchester) rsc 3rd rnd. Middle: D Ryan (Donegal) bt D Juma (Ghana) pts.
FORTE POSTHOUSE HOTEL, Glasgow: Flyweight (6 mds): K Knox (Bonnyrigg) bt A Hanna (Birmingham) pts. Super-bantam (6 mds): A Buchanan (Glasgow) bt J Whitaker (Halifax) rsc 6th rnd. Light-welter (8 mds): B Coleman (Birmingham) bt S McLevy (Glasgow) rsc 5th rnd. Light-middle (8 mds): J Townsley (Cleland) bt H Davey (Wallsend) pts

CRICKET

AON RISK TROPHY: Christ College, Brecon: Glamorgan 225-6 (M J Rowell 54); Hampshire 195 (M Kapoh 76; G P Butcher 4-40). Glamorgan won by 30 runs. Chelmsford: Kent 141; Essex 147-1 (D D J Robinson 80 not out) Essex won by 9 wkts. Duffield: Derbyshire 165 (A R Oram 4-32); Nottinghamshire 166-4. Nottinghamshire won by 6 wkts
THE PARKS (one day): MCCC 174 (G Shophard 53); Oxford University 157 (R Hudson 51; A Farooque 5-22). MCCC won by 17 runs.
SCHOOLS MATCH: Emeritt 165-8 dec, St Edmund's, Ware 166-3 (R Gilham 75 not out).

CYCLING

GIRO D'ITALIA: Seventeenth stage (Dolmino to Vorona, 200 kilometres) 1, M Guidi (It, Polti) 4hr 27min 41sec; 2, A Pozzi (It, Cantina Tollo); 3, J Gonzalez (Col, Kelme) both same time; 4, M Piccoli (It, Brescialat) at 31sec; 5, M Vergnani (It, Amore and Vita); 6, A Brognara (It, Bella) both same time. Leading overall positions: 1, I Gotti (It, Saeco) 78hr 27min 23sec; 2, P Tonkov (Russ, Mapei) at 51sec; 3, L Leblanc (Fr, Polti) at 3min 02sec; 4, A Sivtsov (Kaz, Asics) at 3.40; 5, N Miceli (It, AKI) at 4:07; 6, G Guerini (It, Polti) at 6:17

FOOTBALL

TOULON INTERNATIONAL UNDER-21 TOURNAMENT: Morocco 4 Croatia 0 (at Portet).

Monday's late results

SPANISH LEAGUE: Real Zaragoza 2 Atlético Madrid 3; Real Sociedad 3 Tenerife 0

Leading positions

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Real Madrid	40	26	11	3	82	31	89
Barcelona	40	26	6	8	97	47	84
Deportivo	40	20	14	6	56	29	74
Real Betis	40	20	14	6	79	43	74
Atlético Madrid	40	20	11	9	75	58	71
Athletic Bilbao	40	16	16	9	69	54	61
Valladolid	40	17	10	13	56	44	61
Real Sociedad	40	16	9	15	46	45	57
Valencia	40	14	11	15	59	55	53
Tenerife	40	14	10	16	63	54	52

TOULON INTERNATIONAL UNDER-21 TOURNAMENT: Colombia 3 Czech Republic 0 (at Arles). Portugal 1 United States 1 (at La Seyne-sur-Mer). Portugal meet France in final
ARGENTINIAN LEAGUE: Boca Juniors 1 Deportivo Español 3, Colon 0 Independiente 6; Estudiantes 1 Gimnasia-La Plata 0; Gimnasia-Jujuy 2 Union 0; Huracan Corrientes 2 Ferro Carril Oeste 1, Lanus 3 Velez Sarsfield 1 (abandoned after 80min), Platense 1 Huracan 3, Racing Club 1 River Plate 2; San Lorenzo 3 Newell's Old Boys 0; Rosario Central 2 Banfield 0

GLIDING

BIDFORD-ON-AVON: National motor glider handicap: Third day (250-kilometre triangle, 3 completions of 12). 1, I Cook (Ventus 2T) 889pts; 2, A Moulang and M Sessmann (Ventus CT) 826; 3, D Findon (Nimbus 4DT) 805. 4, R Aldous (Discus BT) 564, 5, R Jones and S Manroff (Nimbus 3DM) 494, 6, P Roberts (Ventus BT) 472; 7, J Denne (Discus BT), 237; 8, R Witter (Ventus 2T) 211. Leading overall positions: (three days) 1, Cook, 2,398pts; 2, Jones and Manroff 2,102, 3, Findon 1,848, 4, Denne 1,636, 5 Aldous 1,527, 6, Roberts 1,417, 7, Witter 1,171, 8, M Costin (DG400) 998

GOLF

WORLD RANKINGS: 1, G Norman (Aus) 10.54pts; 2, T Woods (US) 10.02; 3, T Lehman (US) 9.41, 4, S Elkington (Aus) 9.29; 5, N Price (Zim) 8.78, 6, C Montgomerie (Scot) 8.67, 7, E Els (SA) 8.57, 8, J Ozaki (Japan) 8.11

HOCKEY

BERLIN: Women's Champions' Trophy: South Korea 2 Great Britain 0; Australia 2 Holland 0

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCHES: Eastern Province Invitation XV 19 Tonga 34 (in Port Elizabeth) Central Vikings 10 Fiji XV 19 (in Palmerston North, New Zealand)
PARIS: Paris Sevens: Quarter-finals: New Zealand Barbarians 45 South Korea 12; France 24 Barbarians 14, Argentina 24 Australia 7, Fiji 40 Samoa 14. Semi-finals: New Zealand Barbarians 26 France 21, Fiji 36 Argentina 15. Final: Fiji 33 New Zealand Barbarians 7

SPEEDWAY

ELITE LEAGUE: Wolverhampton 48 Swindon 42
PREMIER LEAGUE: Exeter 54 Newcastle 36, Reading 59 Sheffield 31

SQUASH

ENGLAND RANKINGS: Men: 1, C Walker (Essex); 2, S Parke (Yorks), 3, D Hamo (Essex), 4, P Johnson (Kent), 5, M Cairns (Oxon) 6, S Meads (Berks), 7, M Chalonor (Lincs), 8, N Taylor (Lancs); 9, J Nicolle (Notts), 10, T Hands (Essex). Women: 1, S Wright (Kent); 2, L Charman (Sussex), 3, S Horner (Yorks), 4, J Martin (Northumbria), 5, F Geaves (Gloucs), 6, R Macree (Essex), 7, T Shenton (Staffs); 8, J Thacker (Yorks); 9, J Trafield (Yorks), 10, S Brind (Kent)

TENNIS

SURBITON: Surrey grass court championships (GB unless stated): Men: Final qualifying round: D Sapsford bt D Flach (US) 7-5, 3-6, 6-2; M Lee bt R Weidenfeld (Isr) 6-7, 6-4, 6-4; N Pereira (Ven) bt A Rechel (US) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3; P Hand bt D Ward 6-3, 6-1, M Potchky bt P Bjur (Gor) 3-6, 7-5, 6-2; C Wilkinson bt A Bilobrajdic (Aus) 6-4, 6-4; C Haggard (SA) bt C Bennett 3-6, 6-1, 6-3, R Koenig (SA) bt E Erlich (Isr) 7-5, 6-2. First round: J Stoltenberg (Aus) bt C Haggard (SA) 6-2, 6-3; A Radulescu (Ger) bt N Pereira (Ven) 5-0 ret, R Koenig (SA) bt S Draper (Aus) 6-3, 7-6. Women: Final qualifying round: V Davies bt N Egorova (Russ) 6-3, 3-6, 7-5, P Hormeda (Sp) bt H Mochizuki (Japan) 6-1, 7-6, L Latimer bt D Jones (Aus) 6-4, 6-2; A Wainwright bt K Cross 6-2, 6-4. First round: T Tanasugarn (Thai) bt M Mazzotta 6-3, 6-1, L Golarsa (It) bt L Horn (SA) 6-4, 6-1; A Olsza (Pol) bt D Graham (US) 6-1, 6-2; L Ahl bt S Smith 7-5, 6-4, K A Guso (Aus) bt S Drake-Brockham (Aus) 6-3 6-3, Latimer bt K Paco (US) 6-0, 7-6, Wainwright bt N Vaidyanathan (India) 6-3 6-3, S Cucac (US) bt T Snyder (US) 5-7, 7-5, 7-5, J Taylor (Aus) bt Mochizuki 6-4 6-2, S-A Siddall bt M Tu (US) 6-3, 6-0, L Woodroffe bt P Nelson (USA) 6-4, 6-2, M Shaughnessy (US) bt J Chi (US) 6-2, 6-2; O Barabanschikova (Bela) bt P Hormeda (Sp) 6-2, 6-2, T Kncan (Slovenia) bt J Lee (US) 7-5, 6-3; S Noorlander (Holl) bt K Brandi (US) 4-6, 6-4, 6-3; K Kunce (Aus) bt Davies 4-6, 6-2, 6-1

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Special General Meeting of SCOTTISH AMICABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

NOTICE is hereby given that a Special General Meeting of Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society ("the Society") will be held at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre, Glasgow on 27 June 1997 at 11.00 a.m. when the following resolution will be proposed as a special resolution:

Special Resolution

THAT:

(a) the proposals described in the circular to members and policyholders of Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society ("the Society") dated 28 May 1997 ("the Circular") including, without limitation, the scheme ("the Scheme") providing for the transfer of the long term business (as defined in the Insurance Companies Act 1982) ("the Act") of the Society to The Prudential Assurance Company Limited pursuant to Section 49 of, and Part I of Schedule 2C to, the Act as set out in the document produced to the meeting and signed for the purpose of identification by the Chairman thereof and summarised in the Circular be and are hereby approved and the Directors of the Society be and are hereby authorised and instructed to carry the same into effect with power to agree to or make such additions or modifications thereto, and to do all such acts and things on behalf of the Society, as they may consider necessary or desirable for the purpose of securing an order sanctioning the Scheme and of carrying the same and the proposals described in the Circular into effect:

(b) subject to, and conditionally upon, the Scheme being sanctioned by an order of the Court, the regulations of the Society as set forth in Schedule 1 to the Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society's Act 1976 (as amended) be and are hereby amended as follows:

(i) by the renumbering of existing regulation 2(6) as regulation 2(7) and the addition of the following as regulation 2(6): "to transfer the whole or substantially the whole of the business and undertaking of the Society to The Prudential Assurance Company Limited pursuant to a scheme under Section 49 of, and Part I of Schedule 2C to, the Insurance Companies Act 1982 ("the Scheme") in the form annexed to the petition to the Court of Session dated 28 May 1997, or as amended from time to time;";

(ii) by the renumbering of existing regulation 3(28) as regulation 3(29) and the addition of the following as regulation 3(28): "to transfer the whole or substantially the whole of the business and undertaking of the Society to The Prudential Assurance Company Limited pursuant to the Scheme referred to in regulation 2(6) on such terms as the Society shall think fit and to enter into such arrangements and do all such things ancillary thereto or in connection therewith as the Society shall think fit (including doing all such things as the directors consider necessary or desirable to give effect to the proposals described in the circular to members and policyholders of the Society relating to the said Scheme);";

(iii) by the deletion of the word "The" at the start of regulation 4 and the substitution therefor of the words "Without prejudice to regulations 5B and 9B, the";

(iv) by the deletion of the word "All" at the start of regulation 5 and the substitution therefor of the words "Subject to regulations 5A, 5B, 5C, 6A, 6B, 9A and 9B, all";

(v) by the addition of the following as new regulations 5A, 5B and 5C:

"5A Notwithstanding any other provision of these regulations, no person shall be or become a member of the Society by virtue of any policy of assurance which is not entitled to participate in profits.

5B Where, in accordance with these regulations, a free standing additional voluntary contribution pension policy (within the meaning of the Retirement Benefits Scheme (Restrictions on Discretion to Approve) (Additional Voluntary Contributions) Regulations 1993) confers membership of the Society, the member in respect of same shall be the individual on whose behalf the policy was effected, notwithstanding that such policy is effected in name of a trustee or trustees.

5C Subject to the provisions of regulation 5A, if on or after 1 June 1997 a member in respect of a pension policy (i) transfers the entire pension benefits attributable to any person thereunder to another pension policy or (ii) converts such policy into a different category of pension policy, and in either such case the schedule to such other pension policy or different category of pension policy ("the replacement policy") states that the policy contains a "Ported Transfer Payment" (or words of like effect) the person in right of the replacement policy shall be or become the member in respect of the replacement policy.";

(vi) by the deletion of the word "A" at the start of regulation 6 and the substitution therefor of the words "Subject to regulations 5B, 5C, 6A, 6B and 9B, a";

(vii) by the addition of the following as new regulations 6A and 6B:

"6A Subject to regulation 5C no person shall be or become a member of the Society on or at any time after 1 June 1997 in respect of any policy of assurance unless the proposal for same was for a policy which would participate in profits of the Society and such proposal has been accepted by the directors before 1 June 1997 and has not subsequently been altered other than by agreement with the directors.

6B No person shall be or become a member of the Society in respect of any policy of assurance if that policy participates in profits only by reason of the exercise of switching or conversion rights if the date of implementation by the Society of such switching or conversion is on or after 1 June 1997.";

(viii) by the deletion of the word "Assignation" at the start of regulation 9 and the substitution therefor of the words "Subject to regulations 5C, 9A, 9B and 104, assignation";

(ix) by the addition of the following as new regulations 9A and 9B:

"9A If in consequence of assignation or other transference of any kind, the assignee has at any time prior to 1 June 1997 acquired the absolute right to such policy, and has been entered in the Society's computerised records as having acquired the absolute right to such policy, such assignee shall be a member in place of the person already a member of the Society in respect of the assurance with effect from the time at which the computerised records of the Society are altered accordingly.

9B This regulation 9B applies (i) to a policy which confers membership of the Society and was effected in name of a trustee or trustees, and (ii) to a person who is in right of such policy by reason only of a change of trusteeship. So long as that person remains in right of that policy he will be the member in respect of it, and the Society shall be entitled to require such information as it reasonably thinks necessary to satisfy itself as to the identity and capacity of any person claiming or purporting to act as trustee in respect of such policy.";

(x) by the addition of the following as new regulation 89A:

"89A Regulations 85 to 89 apply without prejudice to the implementation of the Scheme referred to in regulation 2(6).";

(xi) by the insertion in regulation 95 of words "or policyholder" after "member" where it appears in both places in that regulation; and

(xii) by the addition of the following as new regulation 104:

"104 In any case of doubt the decision of the directors as to whether or not any person is a member of the Society shall be conclusive. In arriving at such decision the directors shall be entitled to rely upon the Society's records and for this purpose to set the most practicable date by reference to the records at which any question as to membership shall be determined. The directors shall also be entitled but not required to assume (in the absence of conclusive evidence to the contrary) (i) that any assignee of a policy shown in the Society's computer records is an assignee who has acquired the absolute right to such policy, and (ii) that (subject thereto) any person shown in the Society's computer records as a "contributor" in respect of any policy is the proposer of that policy."; and

(c) subject to, and conditionally upon, the Scheme being sanctioned by an order of the Court and taking effect, the regulations produced to the meeting and signed by the Chairman thereof for purposes of identification be and are hereby adopted as the regulations of the Society in substitution for, and to the exclusion of, the then existing regulations of the Society as set forth in Schedule 1 to the Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society's Act 1976 (as amended).

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
James C Mitchell
Secretary

Principal Office
PO Box 25, Craigforth
Stirling FK9 4UE

NOTES:

1. Any member entitled to vote at meetings of the Society (a "Voting Member") is entitled to appoint another person (who need not be a member of the Society) as his proxy to attend the Special General Meeting and vote instead of him. A proxy who is not himself a Voting Member is not entitled to speak at the Special General Meeting except to demand or join in demanding a poll.
2. Forms of proxy and the power of attorney or other authority, if any, under which they are signed, or a notarially certified copy of such power or authority, should be deposited at the principal office of the Society, Craigforth, Stirling FK9 4YU not later than 11.00 am on 25 June 1997. The lodging of a form of proxy will not prevent a Voting Member from voting in person at the Special General Meeting, if he or she wishes to do so.
3. It is important that Voting Members intending to vote personally bring with them to the Special General Meeting the letter accompanying their form of proxy or, failing that, details of their policy number(s) and some means of identification. Holders of proxies should bring with them to the Special General Meeting details of the policy number(s) in respect of which they have been appointed proxy and some means of identification. On arrival at the Special General Meeting, please register with the officials who will be at the door. Registration will commence at 10.00 a.m.
4. Copies of the Circular, the Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society's Act 1976 and the regulations of the Society as proposed to be altered/replaced are available on application to the Society.

Scottish Amicable

CRICKET

Surrey must wait for foreign aid to arrive

By Alan Lee, cricket correspondent

SURREY have yet to win a game in the Britannic Assurance championship this season and the portents suggest that they will struggle to make a start this week. The ante-post favourites, who meet Essex at the Oval today, are missing four England players, have two men struggling with injuries and are still without an overseas player.

Officials at the Oval are understandably torn by the international achievements of their players. Four of their top six batsmen are absent today and the position could worsen if either Alex Tudor or Ben Hollioake graduate to Test cricket before the summer is out. Both play today.

Surrey have championship fixtures clashing with each of the first five Tests, one good reason why they have abandoned their intention of getting through the season without foreign aid. It had been hoped that Saqlain Mushtaq, their acquisition from Pakistan, would be available this week, but he is not now due to arrive in the country until tomorrow.

His debut will either be in the Sunday League game against Essex or the Benson and Hedges Cup semi-final against Leicestershire, two days later, but it will be his championship partnership with the leg spin of Ian Salisbury that will add significantly to Surrey's strength.

Joey Benjamin and Nadeem Shahid will have fitness tests before the Surrey team is announced this morning. So, too, will Paul Prichard, the Essex captain who is suffering from a groin strain. With Nasser Hussain away with England, Graham Gooch is on standby to lead the team.

Glamorgan, the leaders, have no game today and Gloucestershire, in second place, are without David Lawrence for their tough examination at Headingley. Lawrence is injured once more: his comeback, though brave and romantic, is beginning to look short-lived.

Two of the counties queuing behind them, Kent and Warwickshire, have fitness worries for their meeting at Tunbridge Wells. Graham Cowdrey, of Kent, has torn a hamstring, and Allan Donald's back strain continues to keep him out of a Warwickshire side that may also miss Ashley Giles, who has a shin injury.

It needed luck with injuries, as well as ability and tenacity, for Leicestershire to win the title last season, and it is not being so kind now. David Millns has a knee strain and James Ormond will probably replace him at Lord's today, against a Middlesex side in erratic form.

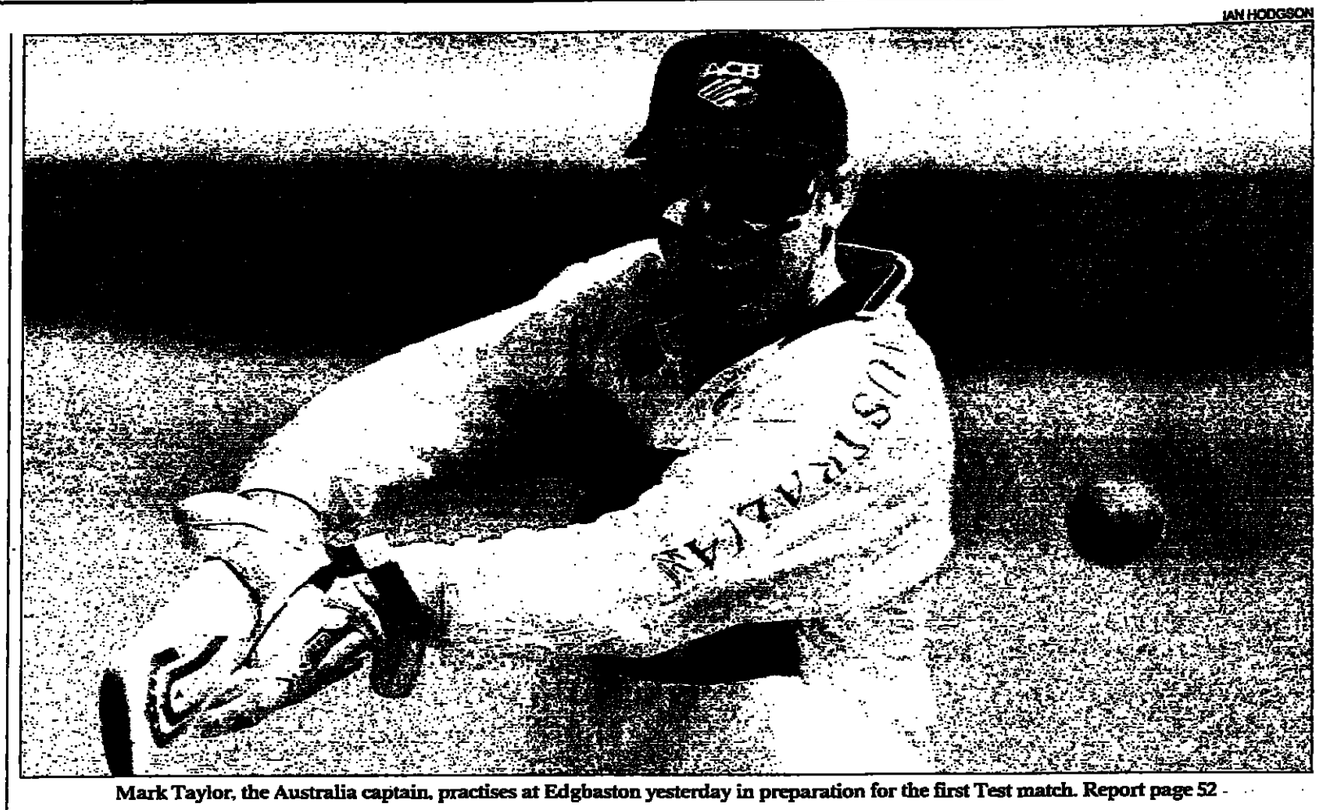
Chris Adams has been named in the Derbyshire team, despite disputing a club fine for dissent, and Kim Barnett also returns against Hampshire at Chesterfield. Nottinghamshire, whose overseas player saga has been a farce this year, try yet another one by giving Nathan Astle, the New Zealander, his debut at Northampton.

TABLE

	P	W	L	D	Bt	Bl	Pts
Glamorgan (10)	5	2	0	3	13	17	71
Gloucs (13)	4	2	0	2	11	16	65
Leicestershire (1)	5	1	0	4	13	20	61
Middlesex (9)	4	2	1	1	9	16	60
Kent (4)	4	2	1	1	7	16	58
Notts (17)	5	2	1	2	3	17	58
Yorkshire (6)	4	2	1	1	8	14	57
Warwickshire (8)	4	2	0	2	4	10	52
Somerset (11)	5	0	1	4	14	19	45
Essex (5)	4	1	1	2	7	16	45
Worcs (7)	4	0	0	4	13	13	43
Durham (18)	5	0	2	3	9	15	33
Hampshire (14)	5	0	2	3	12	11	32
Sussex (12)	4	0	1	3	7	14	30
Lancashire (15)	4	0	1	3	10	10	29
Surrey (3)	4	0	1	3	6	12	26
Northants (16)	4	0	1	3	6	11	26
Derbyshire (2)	4	0	2	2	4	16	26

☐ Worcestershire's record includes eight points as side batting last in match where scores finished level

(1996 positions in brackets)



IAN HODGSON

Mark Taylor, the Australia captain, practises at Edgbaston yesterday in preparation for the first Test match. Report page 52

Waugh means peace and harmony

MICHAEL HENDERSON

Line and Length

It was so predictable, you could not help but laugh. The ball was on a line of leg and middle and Mark Waugh drove it to the mid-wicket boundary to get off the mark. Two balls later, he played a similar stroke, only this time the shot was gentler, the ball took a little longer to touch the ropes and the afterglow was warmer.

It looked regal and yet it was also casual: a trick only one batsman in a thousand can pull off. Waugh is that batsman. There are many reasons for welcoming the start of another Ashes series, and as compelling as any is the prospect of watching the most beautiful player in the world at the height of his powers. Who knows? If he feels sufficiently roused by Australia's indifferent start to this tour, he may, in the weeks ahead, approach the greatness that lies within him.

Those on-side strokes, at Bristol last week, represented an unfurling of the banner. They bore his stamp, just as surely as they identified Greg Chappell as the most handsome batsman of his day, 20 years ago. Most Australian batsmen, by temperament and style, are not flowery. Chappell, going against the grain, batted as if he wore emperor's raiment and Waugh, though not quite so imperial, could easily pass for a prince.

Sometimes, if you half-close your eyes on a sunlit day when Waugh is at the crease, and watch him play those strokes that more prolific batsmen wished they had, you get an impression of what cricket used to be like, if the accounts of the old-timers are reliable. There is something of a morning dream about his batting, of the game played purely for pleasure, of "kissing the joy as it flies".

Brian Lara and Sachin Tendulkar are probably "better" players, and Steve Waugh is more copper-bottomed in his reliability, but, for sheer watchability, there is no more sapid batsman in the modern game than M. E. Waugh. If, for a lark, runs were awarded for aesthetic merit, he might easily make a hundred from ten balls every time he went out to bat.

Yet what makes Waugh interesting is the strength of will that his easy manner conceals. It is not so obvious as his brother's, but it is there. He is offended, rightly, when people think of him as being flighty. He could not make match-winning Test hundreds in the West Indies and South Africa if he lacked purpose.

When Alan Bennett said that "dandies are tough", he was talking of John Betjeman, another man whose amiable public image failed to disguise a steel-eyed purpose. Because Waugh has a dolphin-friendly face, it does not follow that he will perform tricks for cheap applause. It is just that, when somebody plays with such little apparent effort, people sometimes wonder whether they can really be serious.

To some extent, the perception of Waugh as a soft touch is his own fault. He made 138 in his first Test innings, against England in Adelaide six years ago, and has exceeded it only once (and then by two runs) in his subsequent ten hundreds. He averages 43 when a player of his class should be making 50 every time. Facts do not mean everything, but they do mean something, and Waugh should amend his record in the years left to him.

At Bristol last week, when there was a hundred to be taken, he was out an over before lunch for 66, caught at mid-on as he tried to hit a spinner over the top. Aha, some will say, he is maker of glorious 70s and 80s; he should make more hundreds. True, but we need pleasure-givers as well as the type of batsmen who wear bowlers down. Danny Blanchflower, who knew all about glory, believed that luxury players were precisely the ones you could not not afford. In the successful Australia side that he has grown up in, Waugh is a necessary adornment.

I mention this because, too often, cricket talk is about sledging, ball-tampering, over rates, intimidatory bowling, and whatnot. There is also the barrel-load of dressing-room banalities, of commitment, no quarter being asked (nor, indeed, given), things being "taken on board", and "input".

Essentially, though, cricket is about bowlers trying to rip out three poles at the other end and batsmen trying to whack the ball across a meadow. When we bowl in our dreams, we imagine ourselves to be Dennis Lillee or Wasim Akram. When we bat, we play shots with the unhurried serenity of Mark Waugh. This should be a great summer. Open your ears and enjoy the beguiling song that is about to begin.

Ward is the new king of Herts

Minor Counties Cricket by Michael Austin

MINOR counties bowlers will shudder at the signing of David Ward, the former Surrey strokeplayer, for Hertfordshire. As if the former Test batsmen, Wayne Larkins and Derek Randall, appearing for Bedfordshire and Suffolk respectively were not enough, this could become a tough year for those seeking lost balls in hedge bottoms.

With David Surridge, the Hertfordshire captain for the past eight years, leaving the club, Nick Gilbert, 34 later this month, has grasped the challenge to restore the county's better days. Hertfordshire have finished in the bottom three of the Eastern Division during each of the past four years, thus failing to win a place in the NatWest Trophy since 1992.

Gilbert, a St Albans batsman, hopes that the pugnacious Ward will help to change all that, but said: "Looking at David's fine record, some would think 'Here comes the cavalry' and relax, but our players want to prove something themselves." Ward, 36, scored 2,072 first-class runs for Surrey in 1990, his best summer.

His debut is against Northumberland in the two-day match starting on June 17 at St Albans. "David cannot be expected to wave the magic wand, but he will help in our prime aim to qualify for next season's NatWest," Gilbert said. "As a fast scorer, he should be a force, especially when we bat last." Whether other counties will allow for the "Ward factor" when formulating declaration targets remains to be seen, but, when Hertfordshire drew their opening game with Lincolnshire on a piece of batting paradise at Sleaford, Gilbert himself had a dilemma, as he explained.

"We lost the toss, were put in and 550 runs were scored, overall, on the first day. We asked Lincolnshire's powerful batting line-up to make 350 in 56 overs: they lost three wickets quickly just after tea, the chase was over and the match drawn. We took the wickets too quickly to keep them interested."

IT EMPHASISED The age-old problem of squeezing four innings into two days. Ideally, three or four days would suit the purpose, as in the second XI championship for first-class counties this summer, but this remains a non-starter. Gilbert said: "As a contract surveyor, my company is very supportive. My cricket involvement goes down well with them and I get 15 days of my 21 days annual leave to play for Hertfordshire."

Gary Loveday, who is in his second season as Berkshire captain, is relishing the prospect of making his hundredth championship appearance against Shropshire at Hurst on Tuesday. Loveday, 33, is within 500 runs of the county's championship record of 6,970, set by Tony Davis, who played from 1950 to 1974.

Loveday believes that the signing of Neil Kendrick, the former Surrey and Glamorgan spinner, will add another dimension to Berkshire's season. "The initial contact came through our wicketkeeper, Mark Lane, who knows Neil," Loveday said. "His experience will be valuable."

BBC strives to set new boundaries for Ashes coverage

Expect slicker BBC television coverage when the clash for the Ashes opens at Edgbaston tomorrow. The corporation has made a number of changes to its programme, which will start five minutes earlier on some days, ten minutes on others, to help viewers to savour the big-match build-up.

A roving reporter — Simon Hughes — has been commissioned to obtain speedier player interviews and there will be a more considered precis of the day's play at the close. Greater thought has also gone into tea interval features, which kick off tomorrow with David Gower recalling England's last successful home Ashes campaign (under his captaincy in 1985).

An editor of cricket, Philip Bernie, has been appointed to oversee the innovations. "I am just improving things around the edges," he said modestly yesterday. "The real stars of the show are the commentary team, which is the best in the business." The guest summariser will be Ian Chappell.

Sounds ropey . . .

The second great theft of the season — the first being the disappearance of Mark Taylor's confidence — took place at the weekend. Groundstaff at the County Ground, Bristol, returned to work to find that the boundary rope — measuring 200 metres in length by 2.5cm in diameter — had vanished.

EXTRA COVER

"The rope is very heavy and would take more than one man to lift it," a bewildered member of the groundstaff said yesterday. "It must have been taken away in a van — it is too big to get into a car. We have told the police, but it will be hard to identify, as there are no markings on it."

Gloucestershire do not play at home again until next Thursday, by which time the club may have purchased another rope. "They cost about £300," our source said gloomily. "We could make do with a white line and some flags, I suppose."

Health disservice

Nottinghamshire may have had some good fortune with the National Lottery commission, but that is about where their luck ends this season. A row has engulfed Mohammad Zahid, the overseas player who was released, and yesterday replaced by Nathan Astle, without playing a match.

Zahid, the promising young Pakistan fast bowler, is stricken with a back injury that threatens his career. Zahid believes that his best hope is to seek treatment in England, but the Pakistan board wants him to return home for medical assistance and is not prepared to foot the bill unless he does so.

Sources close to the player have accused Majid Khan, the chief executive of the Pakistan board, of letting insurance policies on players lapse. Majid denies that there is a dispute. "The medical check-ups suggest he has a long-term problem, but our doctors are as good here as they are in London," he said from Lahore yesterday. "If he wants treatment in England, that is his business." Zahid is now attempting to raise the funds himself. Nottinghamshire, who have acted honourably throughout, have offered to make a contribution.

One-day blunder?

Dermot Reeve, famed for his innovative thinking and the best one-day captain England never had, is rumoured to have written a special clause into his contract when he joined Somerset as coach last winter. It stipulates that he need not watch any match in the Axa Life League — the one-day competition in which Reeve made Warwickshire supreme. Hardly surprising, then, that Somerset are languishing in the middle of the table, with just two wins in six matches.

Old fixation

It seems to be the form these days for retired cricketers from the sub-continent to reveal sordid tales of match-fixing. The newest member of the club is Manoj Prabhakar, the former India all-rounder, who alleges that his country's shameful defeat by England in the 1987 World Cup semi-final in Bombay may have been the result of fixing. Until now, it was believed that India's defeat was because of one of the greatest one-day innings ever played, a century by Graham Gooch.

Prabhakar, who also stated that he was offered money to throw a match against Sri Lanka in 1994, makes his claims in the forthcoming issue of *Outlook*, the Indian magazine, famous for reporting the candid observations of Brian Lara after West Indies were beaten by Kenya in the World Cup last year. Ajit Wadekar, who coached India in one of the games referred to by Prabhakar, was philosophical. "When you are out of the reckoning, you tend to imagine things," he said.

Father Times

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Tournoi de France
Italy v England (at Nantes, 7.30)

CRICKET

Britannic Assurance county championship (1st first day of tour)
CHESTERFIELD: Derbyshire v Hampshire
CHESTER-LE-STREET: Durham v Sussex
TUNBRIDGE WELLS: Kent v Warwickshire
LORD'S: Middlesex v Leicestershire
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Nottinghamshire
TAUNTON: Somerset v Lancashire
THE OVAL: Surrey v Essex
HEADINGLEY: Yorkshire v Gloucestershire
SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: First day of four: Abbotsholme School, Rocester: Derbyshire v Sussex. Ilford: Essex v Warwickshire. Swansea: Glamorgan v Northamptonshire. Tuffley Park, Gloucester: Gloucestershire v Yorkshire. Southampton: Hampshire v Surrey. Lensbury CC: Middlesex v Durham. Second day of four: Kidderminster: Worcestershire v Somerset
MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP: First day of two: Beaconsfield: Buckinghamshire v Staffordshire.

RUGBY UNION

Tour match
Mpumalanga v British Isles XV (at Witbank, 2.15)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Second division
Bramley v Leigh (7.30)

OTHER SPORT

GOLF: The Amateur Championship (at Royal St George's and Royal Cinque Ports)
International match: Great Britain and Ireland v South Africa (at Letham Grange)
MOTORCYCLING: TT races (Isle of Man)
TENNIS: Surrey international championships (at Surbiton)

FIRST-CLASS AVERAGES

Batting

Qualification: six completed innings.

		M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avge	100	50
1	G D Lloyd (Lancashire)	4	7	1	589	225	98.16	3	2
2	H Morris (Glamorgan)	5	7	1	583	233*	97.16	2	2
3	E T Smith (Cambridge Univ)	5	8	2	515	190	85.83	1	3
4	S P James (Glamorgan)	5	7	0	573	153	81.85	2	4
5	S G Law (Essex)	4	7	1	476	118*	79.33	1	4
6	M R Ramprakash (Middlesex)	5	7	1	443	145	73.83	3	1
7	M L Hayden (Hampshire)	5	9	2	504	235*	72.00	2	1
8	D S Lehmann (Yorkshire)	4	7	0	455	177	65.00	1	3
9	M W Gatting (Middlesex)	5	7	1	381	160*	63.50	2	—
10	D L Hemp (Warwickshire)	5	8	2	369	138	61.50	2	—
11	B Parker (Yorkshire)	5	8	2	352	138*	58.66	1	1
12	R C Irani (Essex)	4	7	1	339	123*	56.50	2	—
13	A Habib (Leicestershire)	6	9	3	337	175*	56.16	1	1
14	N C Johnson (Leicestershire)	4	7	1	335	150	55.83	1	1
15	A J Moles (Warwickshire)	4	8	2	332	168	55.33	1	1
16	K M Curran (Northants)	4	7	1	326	108	54.33	1	2
17	D Byas (Yorkshire)	6	10	2	430	126*	53.75	2	1
18	D C Boon (Durham)	6	9	1	421	85*	52.62	—	5
19	J E R Gallian (Lancashire)	5	9	1	406	106	50.75	1	3
20	D M Jones (Derbyshire)	6	10	1	449	99*	49.88	—	5
21	J J B Lewis (Durham)	6	9	1	385	210*	48.12	1	1
22	T S Curtis (Worcestershire)	4	6	0	271	113	45.16	2	—
23	J E Morris (Durham)	6	10	1	395	149	43.88	1	1
24	D P Fulton (Kent)	4	7	1	260	94	43.33	—	1
25	G A Hick (Worcestershire)	5	7	1	255	164*	42.50	1	—

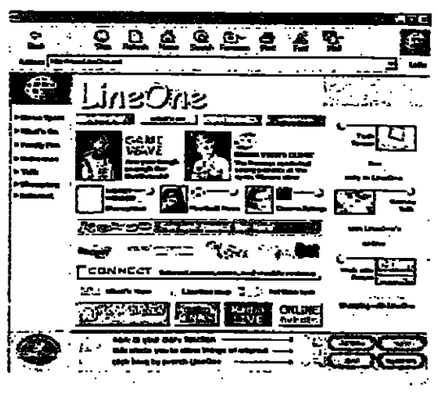
* denotes not out

Bowling

Qualification: ten wickets.

		O	M	R	W	Avge	BB	5I	10m
1	P J Newport (Worcestershire)	92.2	30	200	14	14.28	7-37	1	—
2	A M Smith (Gloucestershire)	153	41	359	23	15.60	6-45	1	1
3	J P Hewitt (Middlesex)	124	34	347	22	15.77	5-59	1	—
4	D R Brown (Warwickshire)	124.3	34	349	21	16.61	5-106	1	—
5	P C R Tufnell (Middlesex)	90.5	35	205	12	17.08	4-64	—	—
6	R D B Croft (Glamorgan)	131	36	324	18	18.00	5-33	1	—
7	P A J DeFreitas (Derbyshire)	150.1	41	452	25	18.08	7-64	2	1
8	S K Warne (Australia)	72.2	15	245	13	18.84	7-103	1	—
9	M W Alleyne (Gloucestershire)	93.4	30	264	14	18.85	6-64	1	—
10	D E Malcolm (Derbyshire)	133.5	31	652	34	19.17	6-74	3	1
11	A A Donald (Warwickshire)	101.4	29	312	11	19.27	4-55	—	—
12	M J McCague (Kent)	154.2	30	527	27	19.51	7-82	3	—
13	M N Bowen (Notts)	170.3	48	451	23	19.60	7-75	2	1
14	D Gough (Yorkshire)	114.5	26	408	20	20.40	5-56	2	—
15	P M Such (Essex)	188.4	56	454	22	20.63	6-55	3	1
16	M C Ilott (Essex)	130.4	42	354	17	20.82	4-82	—	—
17	M V Fleming (Kent)	98.5	25	234	11	21.27	5-51	1	—
18	A Sheriyar (Worcestershire)	143	37	412	19	21.68	5-54	1	—
19	R L Johnson (Middlesex)	129.3	26	461	21	21.95	4-26	—	—
20	D J Millns (Leicestershire)	144.3	31	420	19	22.10	4-64	—	—
21	K J Dean (Derbyshire)	111.5	22	378	17	22.23	4-33	—	—
22	R D Stemp (Yorkshire)	153	35	468	21	22.28	6-77	1	—
23	A R Caddick (Somerset)	216.1	42	600	26	23.07	6-65	3	—
24	S D Thomas (Glamorgan)	88.5	17	300	13	23.07	4-62	—	—
25	G D Rose (Somerset)	130	39	335	14	23.92	3-35	—	—

☐ Source: TCCB/PA Cricket Record



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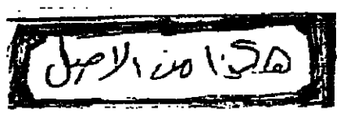


RACING: GOSDEN BOOKS NEWMARKET JOCKEY FOR DANTE WINNER

Ryan given plum Derby ride on Benny The Dip

By Richard Evans
Racing Correspondent

WILLIE RYAN, whose last Derby mount unseated him approaching Tattenham Corner, yesterday picked up the plum spare ride on Benny The Dip in the Epsom classic on Saturday.

"He's ridden a lot of good horses for Henry Cecil. He is a good judge of pace and has a level head," John Gosden, trainer of the Dante Stakes winner, said.

Ryan has ridden in the Derby three times before, including finishing fourth on Faraway Dancer behind Shahrastani in 1986. However, he was less fortunate on Foyer three years ago when he was unceremoniously dumped on the ground six furlongs from home.

Benny The Dip made all the running to win the Dante Stakes at York three weeks ago but a doubt remains about him being able to stay the demanding mile and a half at Epsom. "On the dam's side there is a worry, but his sire, Silver Hawk, is a great influence for stamina and he is a very relaxed horse in his racing and those type of horses often outstay their pedigree," Gosden added. "His two pieces of work since the Dante have been his sharpest, so he is coming into the race in top form."

Nonetheless, Gosden shares the view held by most racing professionals that racegoers could be in for a special treat on Saturday as Entrepreneur attempts to justify short-priced favouritism. "No horse is unbeatable, but he has first-rate credentials. He won the best Derby trial [the 2,000 Guineas], has an excellent pedigree and is a well-balanced horse."

"I think we are coming to watch a proper horse win the Derby: one we are lucky to be around to see."

Gosden's remarks were echoed yesterday by Lester Piggott and Willie Carson. "I have never even thought about Entrepreneur being beaten. I think he could be an exceptional horse," Piggott said. The nine-times Derby-winning rider nominated Benny The Dip and Cloudings, trained by André Fabre, as his two each-way alternatives.

Carson, speaking before a lunch given in his honour at Epsom yesterday, said: "It looks as though Entrepreneur is the class horse, although after the French Derby Cloudings must come into the reckoning. Everybody says it is a one-horse race, but he still has to compete with Epsom racecourse. It is never a one-horse race at Epsom.

"Entrepreneur has gone down the same road as Nashwan, the last horse to complete the 2,000 Guineas-Derby double. He's a speed horse, like Nashwan, but they are different in the sense that Nashwan was a big, rangy horse while Entrepreneur is a smaller, compact horse, more like Sir Ivor."

While Entrepreneur is the inevitable focus of attention in the run-up to Saturday, other pieces in the Derby jigsaw fell into place yesterday with Peter Chapple-Hyam announcing that both Romanov and Single Empire, the Italian Derby winner, will run.

Barry Hills expects Michael, his son, to partner Musalsal, while Ray Cochrane has been booked for The Fly. "I think both horses will be in the first five," Hills said.

Ben Hanbury was particularly bullish about Fahris, the Feilden Stakes winner, who has recovered fully from a sinus problem "and did the best piece of work ever yesterday morning".

Grapeshot, the Predominate Stakes winner, looks likely to miss the race after developing what his trainer, Luca Cumani, described as a "minor physical problem".

ASHLEY COOMBES

Carson shows off a picture of his four Derby winners presented at a lunch in his honour at Epsom yesterday

NEWCASTLE

THUNDERER

2.30 Shegardi
3.00 Boater
3.30 Captain Carat
4.00 Noufari
4.30 DOUBLE-J (nap)
5.00 Sun Mark

The Times Private Handicapper's top ratings: 3.00 BOATER.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.30 Shegardi.

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: J if jumps. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (FIRM ON ROUND COURSE)
DRAW: 5F-1M, HIGH NUMBERS BEST SIS

2.30 BET COMPELLING TIMEFORM COMMENTARIES MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,068: 5f) (8 runners)

1 (8) 0 ATLANTIC VIKING 20 (Atlantic Racing Ltd) M Johnston 9-0 ... D Holland 88
2 (3) DEECEEBEE (D Batey) W Storey 9-0 ... S Whitworth —
3 (2) 2 SHEGARDI 15 (The Thoroughbred Corporation) D Loder 9-0 ... L Dettori 89
4 (1) STEPHANEGEORGE (C Wood) M Brittain 9-0 ... K Darley —
5 (4) 50 IMPERIAL HONEY 8 (E Shoston) Mrs A Swinbank 8-9 ... G Duffield 80
6 (6) 0 INSHALLAH 13 (J Gordon) M Todhunter 8-9 ... J Carroll —
7 (7) 0 JACOBINA 9 (J Ranson) T Barron 8-9 ... R Lappin 71
8 (5) RICH CHOICE (Mrs J Vickers) J Bethell 8-9 ... T Williams —

BETTING: 5-6 Shegardi, 9-4 Atlantic Viking, 10-1 Rich Choice, 12-1 Jacobina, 14-1 Deeceebee, 16-1 others

1996: BOLERO BOY 9-0 Dale Gibson (5-1) M W Easterby 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

ATLANTIC VIKING 4½l 7th of 9 to Belladera in maiden at York (6f, good). DEECEEBEE (hooded Feb 1, cost 5,000gns) second look; dam 1m winner. SHEGARDI ¾l 2nd of 6 to Diligence in maiden at Goodwood (5f, good to soft). IMPERIAL HONEY 4½l 7th of 11 to Behold in auction maiden at Redcar (6f, good to firm). JACOBINA 8½l 8th of 12 to Sansude in auction novice at Redcar (5f, good to firm). Selection: SHEGARDI

3.00 BUCKNALL AUSTIN HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £5,890: 1m) (8 runners)

1 (8) 0125-6 ATLANTIC DESIRE 56 (F) (Atlantic Racing Ltd) M Johnston 9-7 ... L Dettori 94
2 (4) 0-42 SUPER MONARCH 11 (BF) (Maktoum al-Maktoum) E Dunlop 9-3 ... K Darley 88
3 (3) 231-2 BRAVE MONTGOMERIE 14 (F) (C McLaren) Miss L Perratt 9-3 ... J Carroll 90
4 (1) 1-239 NO MORE PRESSURE 29 (D,G) (P Green) Mrs J Ramsden 9-2 ... J Fortune 92
5 (7) 13- KADEENA 218 (G) (Deverill Stud) M Johnston 9-2 ... D Holland 89
6 (5) 03-142 BOATER 18 (D,F) (Lord Hartington) D Morley 8-8 ... R Fitzroch (5) 89
7 (2) 5-4230 BOLLIN TERRY 20 (Sir Neil Westbrook) T Easterby 8-6 ... L Charnock 97
8 (6) 0035- SILVER SECRET 219 (F Sainsbury) M Heaton-Ellis 8-5 ... G Duffield 85

BETTING: 11-4 Super Monarch, 5-1 Boater, Atlantic Desire, Kadeena, 7-1 Brave Montgomerie, 10-1 others

1996: MAPLE BAY 7-8-12 P Roberts (7-1) A Bailey 15 ran

FORM FOCUS

ATLANTIC DESIRE head 2nd of 5 to Windsor Castle in stakes at Leicester (1m 2f, good to firm). BRAVE MONTGOMERIE beat Canadian Fantasy 1¼l in maiden at Ayr (7f, good to firm), Sep 96. NO MORE PRESSURE ½l 2nd of 7 to Night Dancer in limited stakes at Beverley (7f 100yd, good to firm). KADEENA beat Kalmat 1¼l in maiden at Catterick (7f, good), Oct 96. BOATER neck 2nd to Jack Flush in handicap at Thirsk (1m, good to soft). BOLLIN TERRY 1¼l 2nd to Slathmore Clear in handicap at Warwick (1m, good to firm). Selection: BOATER

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
E Dunlop	3	8	37.5	L Dettori	10	51	19.6
D Morley	10	33	30.3	D Holland	5	27	18.5
D Loder	3	14	21.4	G Duffield	13	88	14.8
M Johnston	22	136	16.2	K Darley	26	190	13.7
G M Moore	5	36	13.9	R Lappin	3	24	12.5
P Calver	4	29	13.8	J Fortune	13	118	11.0

3.30 RAMSIDE HALL HOTEL SELLING STAKES (£2,155: 5f) (8 runners)

1 (6) 503401 CAPTAIN CARAT 5 (B,CD,F,G) (V Tarsem) D Nicholls 6-9-10 ... Alex Greaves 93
2 (7) 301240 DOUBLE OSCAR 23 (D,F) (Tulip Racing) D Nicholls 4-9-10 ... J Bowen (7) 89
3 (4) 316000 NEEDLE MATCH 26 (G) (Clayton Bagley Fuss Ltd) J J O'Neill 4-9-10 ... J Carroll 80
4 (3) 420024 FEATHERSTONE LANE 6 (CD,F,G) (D Parker) Mrs L Stubbs 7-9-5 ... D Mcgovern 85
5 (2) 0-0000 HERE COMES A STAR 6 (D,F,G) (Mrs J Goodridge) J Carr 9-9-5 ... A Culhane 85
6 (1) 503406 PALACEGATE JACK 4 (V,D,F,G,S) (W Rump) J Berry 6-9-5 ... K Darley 89
7 (8) 504056 RENNYHOLME 6 (D,G) (Glens Dinkey Racing Plus) A Mangnall 6-9-5 ... J Quinn 85
8 (5) PETAZ (Miss V Foster) M W Easterby 3-8-7 ... T Lucas —

BETTING: 9-4 Captain Carat, 7-2 Palacegate Jack, 4-1 Double Oscar, 13-2 Needle Match, 7-1 Featherstone Lane, 8-1 Rennyhome, 12-1 others

1996: SEA-DEER 7-9-5 J Fortune (9-4 fav) D Chapman 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

CAPTAIN CARAT (dead-heat) beat Donna's Dancer 1½l in 10-runner claimer at Catterick (5f, good to firm). DOUBLE OSCAR beat General Sir Peter short-head in 12-runner claimer at Nottingham (5f, good to firm). NEEDLE MATCH 9l 8th of 19 to Grey Kingdom in handicap at Carlisle (6f, good). FEATHERSTONE LANE 11½l 4th of 13 to Mungo Park in limited stakes at Carlisle (5f, firm) with RENNYHOLME absent 14l 6th. Selection: CAPTAIN CARAT

4.00 50 YEARS OF TIMEFORM HANDICAP (£4,026: 2m 19yd) (6 runners)

1 (6) -32501 EMBRYONIC 11 (C,D,F) (Mrs D Miller) M Todhunter 5-10-0 ... G Carter 96
2 (3) 420-15 BALLPOINT 30 (BF,G) (G Hamilton) G M Moore 4-9-11 ... R French (5) 96
3 (4) 233025 NOUFARI 18 (G) (E Westman) R Hollinshead 6-9-6 ... L Dettori 89
4 (2) 60-022 OPADUE 21 (G) (G Keary) W Storey 5-9-5 ... S Whitworth 97
5 (5) 333-15 GREAT ORATION 19 (D,F) (M Hetherington Ltd) F Watson 8-8-11 ... J Quinn 96
6 (1) 2630P/ THUNDERHEART 578 (D,F) (I Daigleish) R Allan 6-8-4 ... J Fanning —

BETTING: 2-1 Embryonic, 9-4 Opaque, 9-2 Ballpoint, Great Oration, 8-1 Noufari, 20-1 Thunderheart.

1996: ZAMHAREER 5-7-4 Iona Wands (11-2) W Storey 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

EMBRYONIC beat Turnpole 1¼l in handicap at Doncaster (2m 110yd, good to firm). BALLPOINT beat Hasta La Vista ¾l in handicap at Catterick (1m 4f, good). NOUFARI short-head 2nd of 4 to Castle Secret in handicap at Wolverhampton (2m, AW). OPADUE short-head 2nd of 15 to Turnpole in handicap at York (1m 6f, good). GREAT ORATION beat Shirley Sue neck in handicap at Pontefract (2m 1f, good to firm) with EMBRYONIC (7lb better off) about 6½l 5th, previously about 1¾l 4th of 20 to Sea Victor in handicap at Nottingham (2m, good to firm) with THUNDERHEART (34lb better off) 4¼l 9th. Oct 95. Selection: EMBRYONIC

4.30 WIN WITH TIMEFORM HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £3,534: 6f) (8 runners)

1 (8) 260-20 DOUBLE-J 20 (F) (D Armitage) K McAuliffe 9-7 ... B Doyle 92
2 (3) 20-100 NIGHT FLIGHT 20 (D,G) (C Stevens) J J O'Neill 9-3 ... G Duffield 93
3 (7) 2203-1 NIFTY NORMAN 24 (S) (Mrs N Peebles) J Berry 9-2 ... K Darley 89
4 (5) 062-10 PRINCE DOME 16 (F) (G Jones) M Wane 8-11 ... J Carroll 89
5 (1) 3-6230 TWO ON THE BRIDGE 18 (D Smith) D Smith 8-8 ... A Culhane 89
6 (2) 02041 ALWAYS ALIGHT 7 (D,F) (M Haynes-Crocker) K Burke 8-5 (6ex) ... J Quinn 91
7 (4) 0-0003 EXPRESS GIRL 17 (S) (P Arrey) D Moffatt 8-1 ... Darren Moffatt (3) 97
8 (6) 050441 RUM LAD 4 (D,F) (B Shaw) J J Quinn 7-13 (6ex) ... J Lowe 93

BETTING: 7-2 Nifty Norman, 4-1 Always Alight, 9-2 Rum Lad, 6-1 Double-J, Express Girl, 10-1 Night Flight, Prince Dome, Two On The Bridge.

1996: ENCHANTED GUEST 8-8 G Duffield (3-1 fav) P Harris 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

DOUBLE-J 2l 2nd of 13 to Bishops Court in handicap at Chester (6f, soft) with NIGHT FLIGHT (3lb worse off) 16l 9th. NIFTY NORMAN beat Arrhello 6l in maiden at Beverley (5f, heavy). PRINCE DOME beat Marylebone neck in maiden at Beverley (5f, good to firm). ALWAYS ALIGHT beat White Emir 1l in handicap at Newbury (6f, good to firm). EXRUM LAD beat Ohmondagain 1l in 6-runner maiden at Catterick (6f, good to firm). Selection: DOUBLE-J (nap)

5.00 TIP-TOP TIMEFORM RATINGS LIMITED STAKES (£2,379: 1m 1f 9yd) (6 runners)

1 (4) 430003 GENUINE JOHN 11 (G) (Mrs G Spink) J Parkes 4-9-8 ... S Whitworth 95
2 (5) 6/2310 SUN MARK 16 (S) (Scotsmith Racing Ltd) Mrs A Swinbank 6-9-8 ... G Duffield 85
3 (1) 50006/ DARK MIDNIGHT 7J (B) (Exer of R Lamb) D Lamb 8-9-6 ... K Sked (7) —
4 (2) 00-400 DESERT CAT 8 (Miss L Miller) M Wane 4-9-6 ... J Carroll 74
5 (3) -26632 PHILISTAR 8 (G) (N Shields) K Burke 4-9-6 ... B Doyle 89
6 (6) -62001 DISPOL GEM 8 (D,F) (W Inness) P Calver 4-9-5 ... K Darley 95

BETTING: 5-4 Philistar, 2-1 Dispol Gem, 11-2 Genuine John, 7-1 Sun Mark, 8-1 Desert Cat, 50-1 Dark Midnight

1996: CALL ME 8-7 D Mckeown (5-1) C Thornton 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

SUN MARK beat Kathryn's Pet 1¼l in 5-runner limited stakes at Hamilton (1m 4f, soft). DESERT CAT about 9½l 4th of 13 to High Premium in claimer at Carlisle (7f, good). PHILISTAR 3½l 2nd of 12 to La Modiste in claimer at Sandown (1m, good to firm). DISPOL GEM beat Nobby Barnes ½l in handicap at Redcar (1m 1f, good to firm). Selection: DISPOL GEM

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Pontefract
Going: good to firm

2.45 (6f) 1. Land Of Dreams (D Holland) 4-11-2. 2. Fillitch (9-2). 3. First Visage (9-4 fav). 12 ran. 1½l, 5l. M Johnston. Tote £5.90; £1.70, £1.90, £1.40. DF £21.20. Trio £28.30. CSF £19.11.

3.15 (1m 2f 6yd) 1. Life Of Riley (Paul Eddery, 3-11). 2. Ribbban Head (20-1). 3. Vicious Circle (12-1). Aldaal 11-4 fav. 10 ran. Sh hd, 2l. G Lewis. Tote £5.10; £1.40, £4.10, £2.10. DF £60.00. Trio £64.30. CSF £43.27. Hope Chest (4-1) withdrawn not under orders — rule 4 applies to all bets, deduct 20p in pound.

3.45 (1m 2f 6yd) 1. Prehnicha (N Day, 7-1 Thunderer's nap). 2. Southerly Wind (7-4 fav). 3. Sausalito Bay (5-1). 7 ran. 1l, 6l. D Morris. Tote £7.50; £1.90, £1.30. DF £4.60. CSF £19.90.

4.15 (2m 1f 22yd) 1. Nigel's Lad (J Fortune, 4-5 fav). 2. Diego (5-1). 3. Royal Expression (15-8). 3 ran. 1½l, 25l. P Haslam. Tote £1.50. DF £3.00. CSF £4.10.

4.45 (1m 4f 8yd) 1. Royal Castle (T Sprake, 4-1). 2. Scalby Casanova Boy (4-1). 3. Nordic Carol (8-1). Tango King 2-1 fav. 7 ran. 1½l, 2½l. W Hern. Tote £5.70; £3.00, £2.30. DF £22.90. CSF £18.87.

5.15 (6f) 1. Elnadim (R Hills 1-2 fav, Richard Evans' nap). 2. Present Chance (7-2). 3. Husun (16-1). 9 ran. 4l, hd. J Dunlop. Tote £1.60; £1.20, £1.10, £2.00. DF £2.10. Trio £5.60. CSF £3.29. NR: March Crusader.

Placepot: £40.90. Quadpot: £13.50.

Brighton
Going: firm

2.30 (5f 213yd) 1. Third Party (T Quinn, 7-2). 2. Goodbye Gatemen (4-7 fav). 3. Las Vistas (10-1). 6 ran. ½l, 6l. S Dow. Tote £4.00; £1.30, £1.20. DF £2.20. CSF £5.23.

3.00 (6f 209yd) 1. Dark Menace (S Carson, 14-1). 2. Okay Baby (16-1). 3. Time For Tea (14-1). Mr Cube 3-1 fav. 14 ran. 2l, nk. E Wheeler. Tote £14.50; £4.30, £6.00, £3.10. DF £205.80. Trio £667.80. CSF £193.12. Tricast £2,957.74.

3.30 (7f 214yd) 1. Sooty Tern (R Ffrench, 8-1). 2. Kentucky Fall (16-1). 3. Sir Garden (8-1). Barbason 9-4 fav. 8 ran. NR: Silver Secret. 2l, sh hd. J Bradley. Tote £7.40; £2.10, £3.00, £2.00. DF £66.20. Trio £346.90. CSF £114.32. Tricast £972.38.

4.00 (1m 3f 196yd) 1. Mr Browning (T Quinn, 9-2). 2. Colour Counsellor (25-1). 3. Almutawaram (9-1). Prince Danzig 5-2 fav. 8 ran. 4l, 5l. R Akehurst. Tote £5.70; £1.60, £4.30, £1.80. DF £37.60. CSF £95.00. Tricast £890.13.

4.30 (1m 1f 209yd) 1. Roman Reel (S Whitworth, 3-1). 2. Marchman (10-1). 3. Arabovbill (16-1). Shabanaz 9-4 fav. 10 ran. 1½l, 2l. G L Moore. Tote £3.50; £1.70, £4.30, £3.50. DF £34.50. Trio £123.40. CSF £31.21. After a stewards' inquiry, Marchman, who finished first, was placed second.

5.00 (6f 209yd) 1. Shoumatara (J Reid, 4-1). 2. Tithcar (15-8). 3. Literary (10-11 fav). 5 ran. Sh hd, 2½l. M Stoute. Tote: £4.70; £1.50, £1.40. DF £6.60. CSF £11.23.

5.30 (5f 59yd) 1. Tear White (T Quinn, 11-4 fav). 2. Suite Factors (4-1). 3. Anokato (3-1). 7 ran. NR: Formidable Spirit, Sylvania Lights. Nk, 3½l. T Mills. Tote £3.30; £1.50, £2.20. DF: Tea Maker Dancer 12-1 Alimadie, Chastetown Cailin, 16-1 Gorgeous.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Nomore Mr Niceguy (7.10 Chester)
Next best: Lido (2.15 Warwick)

£7.80. Trio: £8.60. CSF: £12.55. Tricast: £30.67.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £4,581.74 carried forward to Warwick today).

Placepot: £1,611.70. Quadpot: £79.00.

Monday's late results

Windsor
Going: good to firm (firm in places)

7.00 (1m 67yd) 1. Agent Matidor (R Perham, 7-1). 2. Chengachgook (20-1). 3. Princess Of Hearts (15-2). 4. Intendroam (9-2 fav). 18 ran. 1½l, ½l. P Cundell. Tote £7.30; £2.00, £4.70, £1.60, £1.80. DF £173.90. Trio £238.80. CSF £137.61. Tricast £1,013.78.

7.30 (5f 217yd) 1. Triple Hay (Paul Eddery, 13-8 fav). 2. Yorkie George (9-4). 3. Warning Time (7-1). 8 ran. NR: Baby Babe. Nk, 3½l. R Hannon. Tote £2.40; £1.40, £1.40, £1.70. DF £2.80. Trio £16.10. CSF £4.90.

8.00 (5f 10yd) 1. Affiglia (S Sanders, 16-1). 2. Islamabad (7-2). 3. Fast Tempo (13-8 fav). 12 ran. NR: God Knows, Wandering Wolf. ½l, 3l. P Makin. Tote £20.70; £3.00, £2.10, £1.10. DF £35.60. Trio £39.00. CSF: £61.56.

8.30 (1m 3f 135yd) 1. Dizzy Tilly (D Holland, 13-2). 2. Nothing Doing (12-1). 3. State Approval (13-2). 4. Sapphire Son (14-1). Elly Reefoot, Rock The Barney 6-1 jt-favs. 19 ran. NR: Kalamalo. 5l, nk. T Naughton. Tote £5.20; £1.80, £4.80, £2.50, £2.40. DF £39.10. Trio £113.70. CSF: £69.31. Tricast: £500.16.

9.00 (1m 2f 7yd) 1. Arctic Owl (D Harrison, 25-1). 2. Mystic Ridge (7-2). 3. Tiza Rufio (9-4 fav). 13 ran. 3l, 5l. J Fanshawe. Tote: £27.70; £4.50, £2.00, £1.30. DF: £204.70. Trio £145.80. CSF: £97.10.

Placepot: £41.90. Quadpot: £8.20.

Thirsk
Going: good to firm (round course firm)

6.45 (5f) 1. Benzoe (J Fortune, 7-2 fav). 2. Camionneur (9-1). 3. Insider Trader (6-1). 15 ran. 1½l, 6l. Mrs J Ramsden. Tote: £4.90; £2.70, £2.80, £2.30. DF: £42.20. Trio: £84.80. CSF: £31.38. Tricast: £180.42.

7.15 (1m 4f) 1. Tassajoe (L Charnock, 2-1 fav). 2. Augustan (6-1). 3. Dora (12-1). 5 ran. Sh hd, 1¼l. M Camacho. Tote: £3.60; £1.50, £2.30. DF: £8.40. CSF: £12.97.

7.45 (7f) 1. Weetman's Weigh (D Griffiths, 10-11 fav). 2. Spanish Knot (9-4). 3. Style Dancer (9-1). 5 ran. ¾l, 1½l. R Hollinshead. Tote: £2.20; £1.10, £1.70. DF: £2.00. CSF: £2.99.

8.15 (1m) 1. Barrier Ridge (W Ryan, 30-100 fav). 2. Dantesque (4-1). 3. Billy Nomate (50-1). 7 ran. 1l, 8l. H Cecil. Tote: £1.30; £1.20, £1.20. DF: £1.80. CSF: £1.59.

8.45 (1m) 1. Gulliver (J Fortune, 10-1). 2. Sir Arthur Hobbs (10-1). 3. Pleasure Trick (20-1). 4. Mukhliss (12-1). Paint It Black, 7-2 fav. 16 ran. ¾l, nk. Mrs J Ramsden. Tote: £10.30; £2.30, £2.10, £3.40, £4.70. DF: £41.40. Trio: £456.40. CSF: £97.65. Tricast: £1,142.40.

Placepot: £38.50. Quadpot: £17.00.

BEVERLEY

THUNDERER

6.30 Signs And Wonders. 7.00 Tertium. 7.30 Folklore. 8.00 Regal Eagle. 8.30 Mountgate. 9.00 Generous Libra.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 7.30 FOLKLORE (nap). 9.00 Generous Libra.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS
DRAW: 5F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

6.30 TEAM RATING RELATED MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,854: 1m 100yd) (4 runners)

1 2332 AIR PARADISE 9 T Naughton 9-0 ... J D Smith (3) 2
2 604 NEWMAN 30 B Hills 9-0 ... R Hills 1
3 44-0 CORAL STRAND 30 J Watts 8-11 ... N Connorton 4
4 0352 SIGNS AND WONDERS 9 C Cyzer 8-11 ... L Dettori 3

8-4 Signs And Wonders, 2-1 Air Paradise, 7-2 Newman, 13-2 Coral Strand.

7.00 KENNEDY WATTS PARTNERSHIP CONSULTING ENGINEERS HANDICAP (£3,444: 1m 100yd) (4) SKY

1 0606 TERTIUM 9 (CD,F) M Wane 5-10-0 ... J Carroll 3
2 0110 THREE ARCH BRIDGE 4 (B,CD,F,G,S) M Johnston 5-9-10 (6ex) ... D Mckeown 4
3 0351 PEKAY 2 (F) M Johnston 4-9-0 (6ex) ... L Dettori 2
4 0-43 MURPHY'S GOLD 11 (CD,F) R Fahey 6-7-11 ... R Winston (7) 1

15-8 Tertium, 5-2 Pekay, 11-4 Three Arch Bridge, 4-1 Murphy's Gold.

7.30 HILARY NEEDLER TROPHY CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-O: £9,277: 5f) (10) SKY

1 3341 GOING PLACES 16 (D,S) K Ivory 9-0 ... Marion Dwyer 4
2 1 FOREST TREASURE 18 (D,G) J Berry 8-12 ... G Carter 2
3 1421 HEAVENLY ABSTONE 14 (V,D,F,S) P Evans 8-12 ... A Culhane 10
4 231 KILCORA 9 (D,G) C Dwyer 8-12 ... J Reid 8
5 12 ANGEL HILL 6 (D,BF,G) T Barron 8-12 ... K Darley 5
6 1204 PILSY BRIGG 23 (D,G) G Moore 8-12 ... J Quinn 3
7 2 FOLKLORE 9 (BF) D Loder 8-12 ... L Dettori 6
8 11 LADY MOLLY 33 (D,G) P Beck 8-12 ... J Carroll 7
9 3 SADA 9 W Hern 8-12 ... R Hills 1
10 THE PRUSSIAN QUEEN C Smith 8-12 ... G Duffield 9

13-8 Kilcora, 4-1 Sada, 9-2 Angel Hill, 6-1 Forest Treasure, 10-1 others.

8.00 DON & RAYMOND GIBBON MEMORIAL HANDICAP (£3,118: 2m 35yd) (9)

1 4163 PARADISE NAVY 11 (5 D F G) C Egerton 5-10-0 ... L Dettori 6
2 00-5 REGAL EAGLE 25J M Johnston 4-9-12 ... G Duffield 9
3 20-0 HULLBANK 25 (CD,F) K Hogg 7-9-9 ... S Whitworth 5
4 00-5 AMARGE 7 (D,F,G) M Brittain 7-9-10 ... J Carroll 8
5 00-0 SO KEEN 11 A Bailey 4-9-6 ... G Carter 4
6 5342 ROMALITO 11 (F) M Blanshard 7-9-2 ... J Quinn 2
7 0000 SUSHI BAR 18 (F) Mrs M Reveley 6-8-0 ... J Fanning 1
8 0-25 JUNIOR BEN 12 M Sowersby 5-7-10 ... P Fessey (3) 3
9 0000 SHIP'S DANCER 9 (B) E Weymes 4-7-10 ... Kim Tinkler 7

5-2 Romalito, 11-4 Paradise Navy, 5-1 Junior Ben, 6-1 Regal Eagle, 8-1 Hullbank, 10-1 Amarge, So Keen, 12-1 others.

8.30 RACING PAGES HANDICAP (£3,163: 7f 100yd) (8)

1 0-24 MOUNTGATE 8 (CD,F,G) M Bielby 5-9-12 ... D Mckeown 3
2 -065 LEGAL ISSUE 11 (D,F,G,S) W Haigh 5-9-13 ... R Lappin 2
3 0005 SIHAFI 19 (G) J Carr 4-9-11 ... P Bloomfield 4
4 -012 DISPOL DIAMOND 9 (D,F) G Oldroyd 4-9-10 ... K Darley 6
5 0-00 MARTINDALE 14 R Bastiman 4-9-9 ... R Hills 1
6 4-05 JAVA RED 6 (B,G) J Fitzgerald 5-8-2 ... L Charnock 7
7 0060 EURO SCEPTIC 6 (B,CD,F,G) T Easterby 5-8-0 ... R Winston (7) 8
8 0000 ORIEL LAD 9 (B,D,F,S) E Incisa 4-7-10 ... Kim Tinkler 5

9-4 Mountgate, 4-1 Java Red, Euro Sceptic, 5-1 Dispol Diamond, 7-1 others.

9.00 EDWIN STARR NIGHT MAIDEN STAKES (£3,535: 7f 100yd) (5)

1 00 CHIEF CONNECTIONS 19 M Bielby 4-9-7 ... A Culhane 1
2 0 FOREST SIGNAL 41 M Brittain 3-8-11 ... J Carroll 3
3 3-3 GENEROUS LIBRA 19 (BF) D Loder 3-8-11 ... L Dettori 4
4 3-6 SPEEDBOAT 23 J Eyre 3-8-11 ... D Mckeown 5
5 0-35 ALKHILAS 14 W Hern 3-8-6 ... R Hills 2

4-6 Generous Libra, 2-1 Alkhilas, 7-1 Speedboat, 16-1 Forest Signal, 25-1 Chief Connections.

CHESTER

THUNDERER

6.40 Yorkies Boy. 7.10 Knobbleeneeze. 7.40 Maralinga. 8.10 Ambidextrous. 8.40 Siouxrouge. 9.10 Insider Trader.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS
DRAW: 5F-7F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

6.40 BRYMALL ESTATES MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,649: 5f 16yd) (9 runners) SKY

1 0 ALLMAITES 9 D Nicholls 9-0 ... Iona Wands (5) 3
2 DERNIER CROISE 8 Meehan 9-0 ... Paul Eddery 7
3 JIMMY TOO 8 McMahon 9-0 ... M Wigham 6
4 MISTER DAMASK E Alston 9-0 ... M Rimmer 2
5 0402 YORKIES BOY 11 B McMahon 9-0 ... L Newton 5
6 CHASETOWN CAILIN R Hollinshead 8-9 ... Pat Eddery 8
7 GORGEOUS N Littmoden 8-9 ... T G McLaughlin 1
8 3 GREAT LYTH LASS 11 P Evans 8-9 ... J F Egan 4
9 IRIS MAY J Berry 8-9 ... T E Durcan (5) 9

7-2 Iris May, 3-2 Yorkies Boy, Great Lyth Lass, 11-2 Dernier Croise, 8-1 Jimmy Too, Mister Damask, 12-1 Allmaites, Chasetown Cailin, 16-1 Gorgeous.

7.10 NWS BANK HANDICAP (£8,481: 7f 2yd) (13) SKY

1 -105 CHICKAWICKA 19 (CD,F,G,S) B Palling 6-9-10 ... T Sprake 7
2 8-45 BLIS 9 (D,BF,F,G) G Wragg 5-9-5 ... Paul Eddery 13
3 2-13 TEOFILO 27 (BF,F) D Loder 3-9-4 ... D R McCabe 1
4 -310 ALBERT THE BEAR 13 (CD,F,S) J Berry 4-9-4 ... T E Durcan (5) 12
5 -050 VAN GURP 30 (G) B McMahon 4-9-3 ... M Roberts 3
6 1111 GADGE 5 (D,F,G,S) A Bailey 6-8-12 (6ex) ... D Wright 8
7 0000 DEFINED FEATURE 15 (B,F) J Scargill 4-8-11 ... M Rimmer 10
8 1253 NOMORE MR NICEGUY 20 (D,G) E Alston 3-8-10 ... J Fortune 4
9 2030 KNOBSLEENEEZE 7 (V,CD,BF,F,G,S) M Channon 7-8-9 ... P P Murphy (3) 6
10 0-48 SULTACH 27 (D,F,G,S) R Hollinshead 4-8-9 ... Pat Eddery 5
11 6662 STOPPES BROW 7 (V,D,F,G,S) G L Moore 5-8-6 ... Candy Morris 11
12 0640 I CAN T REMEMBER 20 (CD,F,G,S) P Evans 3-8-0 ... J F Egan 9
13 2430 MYTONS MISTAKE 6 (D,F) A Bailey 4-7-10 ... Iona Wands (5) 2

7-2 Gadge, 6-1 Nomore Mr Niceguy, 13-2 Chickawicka, 8-1 Knobbleeneeze, Stoppes Brow, 10-1 Teofilo, Albert The Bear, I Can't Remember, 12-1 others.

7.40 BODFARI STUD CONDITIONS STAKES (£4,839: 1m 4f 66yd) (2) SKY

1 040- MARALINGA 179 (F,G) Lady Herries 5-9-3 ... Paul Eddery 2
2 141- NIGHT WATCH 522 (F,G) I Balding 4-8-11 ... Pat Eddery 1

8-13 Night Watch, 11-10 Maralinga.

8.10 PAT WHELAN HANDICAP (£3,474: 1m 2f 75yd) (9)

1 /055 BAY OF ISLANDS 18 (D,F) D Morris 5-9-11 ... N Day 1
2 1632 RASAYEL 16 (C,D,F,G) P Evans 7-9-10 ... J F Egan 2
3 3042 QUIET ARCH 11 (D,G) W Muir 4-9-3 ... M Roberts 5
4 0508 SCRICKS 16 (S) P Hollinshead 4-8-12 ... Pat Eddery 7
5 0101 ROAD RACER 12 (D,G) Mrs J Ramsden 4-8-11 ... J Fortune 3
6 5630 NORTHERN FAN 18 (G) N Tinkler 5-8-10 ... L Charnock 4
7 0013 PVEZO RUFO 16 (V,D,G,S) R Lemaire 5-7-12 ... R Ffrench (5) 9
8 2503 AMBIDEXTROUS 16 (F) E Alston 5-7-10 ... D Wright 6
9 3241 QUEENS STROLLER 23 (D,G) R Prescott 6-7-10 ... J Bramhill (5) 8

3-1 Road Racer, 7-2 Quiet Arch, 4-1 Rasayel, 6-1 Ambidextrous, 8-1 Queens Stroller, 10-1 Bay Of Islands, 12-1 Pvezo Rufo, 14-1 others.

8.40 DENTON CLARKE & CO CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,552: 6f 18yd) (10)

1 560- DAVIS ROCK 157 (D,G) W Muir 3-9 ... J Wilkinson (7) 6
2 4-60 FAREWELL MY LOVE 23 (D,G) P Cole 8-13 ... M Rimmer 5
3 0-00 BAYFORD THRUST 8 (G) J Berry 8-12 ... T E Durcan (5) 9
4 5503 C-HARRY 5 (D,G,S) P Hollinshead 9-12 ... M Wigham 2
5 31-0 CAUTION 20 (D,F) Mrs J Ramsden 8-11 ... J Fortune 1
6 1553 SIOUXROUGE 29 (B,D,BF,G) P Haslam 8-10 ... R Ffrench (5) 7
7 1002 MUNICIPAL GIRL 5 (D,F) B Palling 8-2 ... T Sprake 3
8 0400 WEET EES GIRL 28 (G) F Evans 8-1 ... J F Egan 10
9 4130 CHILLING T (B,D,BF,G) N Tinkler 7-13 ... L Charnock 8
10 0000 JOYFUL JOY 16 B Baugh 7-11 ... Iona Wands (5) 4

7-2 Caution, 11-2 C-Harry, Sioucrouge, 7-1 Farewell My

FOOTBALL

Maldini on hiding to nothing in tournament too far

By Brian Glanville

CESARE MALDINI, the veteran Italy manager, appointed in mid-stream, will be rounding up the usual suspects this evening against England in Nantes, but he will do it reluctantly. He would much rather the Tournoi de France had not come along at all.

In short, he and Italy are on a hiding to nothing. Thrown in at the deep end when Arrigo Sacchi, an unpopular predecessor, resigned last year, Maldini radically changed tactics from 4-4-2 to his beloved sweeper-based *catenaccio*. He is unbeaten since taking over and masterminded the 1-0 World Cup qualifying victory over England at Wembley in February.

This time, however, Maldini has had no time to prepare his team; the last league games in Italy took place only on Sunday. Though the tournament too far — as Alex Ferguson, the manager of Manchester United, has aptly named it — is of no ultimate significance, Maldini knows that he has created a climate of expectation in Italy, where, it is said, the national team has 50 million managers.

He cannot call on Roberto Baggio or Fabrizio Ravanelli, both in such fine form when Italy beat Poland in their most recent match, another World Cup qualifier, in Naples. Each is injured. Also, he has a goalkeeper, Angelo Peruzzi, who could well still be in a state of distraction.

Before Juventus played Borussia Dortmund in the European Cup final in Munich last week, Italy's sports papers were trumpeting Peruzzi as his team's hero, a solid guarantee of success. In the event, he had a dreadful game. This, according to one Turin sports writer, was directly caused by the fact that, on the eve of the final, he was flying between Munich and Turin to attend the birth of his daughter. "Had she been born two days later, Juventus would have won the game," the journalist wrote. Quite a heavy burden for an infant to bring into the world.

No doubt Peruzzi's loss of form, not least the way that he allowed Ricken to lob him with his first kick of the match, induced Maldini to recall Gianluca Pagliuca, but Pagliuca, the goalkeeper who, in Giants Stadium three years ago, allowed Ray Houghton's shot to drop over his head and win the game for Ireland, conceded another ghastly goal on Sunday playing for Internazionale in Bologna. Far off his line, he was helpless as Igor Shalimov's chip sailed over his head.

"Dino Zoff," an Italian journalist once remarked of that long-lasting goalkeeper, "has suffocated a whole generation of goalkeepers." You can see what he meant.

In contrast to Maldini, Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, has nothing to lose. He seems happy to experiment, whereas Maldini, against World Cup rivals in this opening game, scarcely dares do so. For Maldini, victory will be taken for granted; defeat hard to endure. A win for England, though, would give Hoddle a tremendous boost as his prosaic team approaches the grand finale in Rome in October.

The only doubt about the Italy team appears to be whether Gigi Casiraghi or Christian Vieri will partner Gianfranco Zola up front, both having missed the game in Naples. Vieri was ill while Casiraghi had only just come back from injury. Both are powerful, quick on the ground and dangerous in the air.

Italy's depth in the attacking positions is, indeed, remarkable. Besides Alessandro Del Piero, who has an injured eye, they have Parma's hugely expensive Enrico Chiesa and the prolific-scoring Pippo Inzaghi.

Inzaghi, 33, was the top scorer in *Serie A* with far-from-fashionable Atalanta, having the remarkable haul of 24 goals. He is a formidable opportunist, fast in mind and movement, though still unproven at international level. In contrast, Vieri and Casiraghi are proven at the highest level. Zola, the scorer at Wembley, is sure to keep England's defenders on their toes again.

Maldini knows that, when Italy play in Georgia in September, their penultimate World Cup qualifying game, he will be without the Milan pair, Billy Costacurta, whom he has turned into a sweeper, and Demetrio Albertini, the midfield player.

This tournament does give him the chance to use alternatives. Stefano Torrisi, the Bologna sweeper, has been chosen for the first time. More significant, however, may be the return, at right back, of the versatile Christian Panucci, of Real Madrid, a favourite of Maldini in his days as under-21 manager. Panucci might well have played sweeper against England at Wembley had he not been unwell.

New, too, in midfield is Gianpiero Maini, released by Roma but fresh from the success of qualifying for the Cup Winners' Cup with Vicenza. If he takes his chance, he could well line up beside Roberto Di Matteo in Georgia.

TEAM

ITALY (probable, 3-5-2): A Peruzzi (Juventus) — A Costacurta (Milan), C Ferrara (Juventus), F Cannavaro (Parma) — A Di Livio (Juventus), C Panucci (Real Madrid), R Di Matteo (Chelsea), D Albertini (Milan), A Benarrivo (Parma) — G Zola (Chelsea), C Vieri (Juventus) or P Casiraghi (Lazio)

Peruzzi: distracted

Casiraghi: powerful

SEAN DEMPSEY

Sheringham, who wants to leave Tottenham, shares a joke with Ince, who has recommended him to Internazionale

Juninho heads Liverpool list

By David Maddock

THEIR season may have ended in comparative failure, but Liverpool are planning a far more successful summer campaign. Peter Robinson, the chief executive, explained yesterday that there will be at least three more significant signings before the start of the season after the arrival of Oyvind Leonardsen.

Intriguingly, Juninho, the Middlesbrough and Brazil midfield player, could yet be one of them. Juninho has openly declared his desire to sign for Atlético Madrid, but, in three separate discussions between his father, Oswaldo, and Liverpool, he has indicated that his second choice is, perhaps surprisingly, the Anfield club.

Oswaldo is acting as his son's agent this summer as he negotiates an escape route from Middlesbrough. He contacted Liverpool initially to suggest that they are the one club in England for whom Juninho would like to play.

Given the interest of Manchester United, that is a surprising assertion, but Juninho has always held Liverpool in high regard. Oswaldo offered a firm undertaking that, should the Madrid deal fall through, then he would turn to Liverpool.

Yesterday, it appeared a far more likely prospect than was thought a week ago. A spokesman for Jesús Gil, the Madrid chairman, complained that they would not be held to ransom over the fee for Juninho. Middlesbrough want £12 million, and Atlético have so far offered just £5 million.

It is less likely that Fabrizio Ravanelli, his Middlesbrough team-mate, will move to Anfield. In talks about Juninho, Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, was also asked if he would be interested in Ravanelli, the Italy international. Any interest was immediately doused when it was indicated that the fee would be £10 million.

Liverpool, though, have made inquiries about Tim Sherwood, the Blackburn Rovers captain, Dino Baggio, the Parma midfield player, and Jari Litmanen, of Ajax.

Paul Ince also remains a target for Liverpool. Ince, the Internazionale midfield player, has received offers from Liverpool, Newcastle United, Chelsea, Everton and Leeds United, and indicated yesterday that he will weigh up the various bids when the Italian season ends in two weeks.

One man who apparently will not be leaving his club is George Graham, the Leeds United manager. He has been linked strongly with a move to Everton, but yesterday confirmed his commitment to Leeds. "I didn't come here thinking short-term and I'm going to see the job through how ever long that takes," he said.

Graham held talks yesterday with Alf Inge Haaland, the Norway midfield player, whose contract with Nottingham Forest has expired. Leeds are hoping to challenge the Football Association under the Bosman ruling and sign Haaland without a fee, despite Forest's insistence that they go to a transfer tribunal.

Barnsley completed their first signing of the summer yesterday when they welcomed Lars Lees, a goalkeeper, from Bayer Leverkusen, of Germany.

Matt Clarke, the Sheffield Wednesday reserve goalkeeper, who was sent off in the final game of the season, against Liverpool, has had the dismissal quoshed after David Elleray, the referee, reviewed video evidence.

New deal for O'Neill

MARTIN O'NEILL, the Leicester City manager, is to sign a new contract that will keep him at Filbert Street until the next millennium. O'Neill's future at Leicester had been in doubt and he had been linked to the vacancies at Celtic and Everton.

With Leicester in Europe, however, after winning the Coca-Cola Cup, and with players, directors and supporters urging him to stay, O'Neill is set to pledge his future to the club. Leicester, who finished ninth in the FA Carling Premiership despite being favourites to go down, have called a news conference for this morning.

Manchester United will complete their pre-season preparations with a home game against Slavia Prague on Wednesday, August 6. The game is part of the deal that brought Karel Poborsky to Old Trafford from the Czech Republic. United also plan games in Bangkok, Hong Kong and Tokyo, as well as matches in Milan and at home against Internazionale.

IN BRIEF

Gualdi and Gotti help to maintain mastery

MIRKO GUALDI maintained the host country's dominance of the Tour of Italy in Verona yesterday by winning the seventeenth stage — the twelfth stage win by an Italian cyclist in the race this year.

Gualdi, 28, finished ahead of Alessandro Pozzi, his compatriot, with José Gonzalez Pico, of Colombia, third, to secure his best victory since he became the world amateur champion in 1990.

Ivan Gotti, another Italian, who retained the race leader's pink jersey, was content to coast in with the peloton, nearly six minutes adrift.

Court date

Athletics: Paul Edwards, the British shot putter sent home from the 1994 Commonwealth Games after failing a drugs test, hopes to return to competition on Saturday, 14 months before his four-year international ban is due to end (David Powell writes).

The High Court in London will today hear Edwards's case against the British Athletic Federation and International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), in which he is claiming restraint of trade under European law. His argument centres on the IAAF's decision, in March, to give early reinstatement to suspended athletes from countries where national law makes it impossible to apply four-year bans. If successful, Edwards plans to throw in the British League this weekend.

☐ Michael Johnson suffered a "severe pull in his left quadricep" in his head-to-head race with Donovan Bailey on Sunday, a spokesman for the athlete said. Johnson is struggling to be fit for the United States championships, which start on June 11 and double as the country's trials for the world championships.

Reifer's reward

Cricket: Floyd Reifer, the Barbados middle-order batsman, has won his first call-up by West Indies, for a one-day international against Sri Lanka in Port of Spain on Friday, after a record-breaking domestic season.

WEST INDIES SQUAD: C Walsh (captain), S Williams, S Chanderpaul, B Lara, C Hooper, R Holder, F Reifer, J Murray, C Ambrose, L Williams, D Ramnarine, F Rose, M Dillon.

Seeds sown

Tennis: Chris Wilkinson, of Great Britain, set up a meeting with Jason Stoltenberg, the No 1 seed, with a straight-sets victory in the first round of the Surrey grass-court championships. Wilkinson beat Nicolas Kiefer, of Germany, 6-4, 6-3.

Eddie Thomas

Boxing: Eddie Thomas, one of the outstanding postwar figures in the sport, has died, aged 70. Thomas, a welterweight, from Merthyr Tydfil, who became British, European and Empire champion between 1949 and 1951, earned even greater fame as a manager, guiding Howard Winstone and Ken Buchanan to world honours.

Obituary, page 23

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

The latest generation of bridge-playing computer programs is the brain-child of Matt Ginsberg, who is in charge of the project along with Fred Gitelman, a Canada international and one of the hottest of bridge computer gurus.

Ginsberg is no mean player himself and, when he played with Gitelman in a pairs event, he was confronted with a problem that would have kept his program, GIB (it stands for Goren in a Box), busy for a while.

Dealer West — East-West game

North: ♠1074 ♥42 ♦1098 ♣AKJ32

West: ♠963 ♥KQ63 ♦653 ♣974

East: ♠8 ♥J875 ♦K742 ♣Q1085

South: ♠AKQJ52 ♥A109 ♦AQJ ♣6

Contract: Six Spades by South — Lead: King of hearts

North-South had a simple Acol auction: Ginsberg opened Two Clubs and heard his partner respond Three Clubs. He bid Three Spades and, over his partner's Four Spade bid, jumped to Six Spades.

The lead of the king of hearts set Ginsberg a tough problem in percentages. He played off one top spade, noting the fall of the eight, then the top clubs (throwing a heart), and ruffed a club with the ace of spades. When the queen of clubs did not drop, he needed two more entries to dummy to set up and cash the fifth club. Should he play for the remaining trumps to be 1-1, or should he play for West to hold 9 6?

He correctly followed the restricted choice indications (the point being that a singleton nine or eight of spades is more likely than a doubleton nine-eight) by leading to the seven of spades and ruffing another club. Now, a spade to the ten allowed him to discard his last heart on the fifth club and he lost just one diamond trick, to register 12 tricks.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

McDonald wins

Grandmaster Neil McDonald has scored a great triumph in the Coulsdon international tournament, winning the event with 8/9, 2½ points clear of his nearest competitors. One of the points of the tournament was to create opportunities for players to qualify for the international master title. The international master norm was 6/9, but McDonald cut such a devastating swathe through the opposition that none of his rivals was able to reach this score.

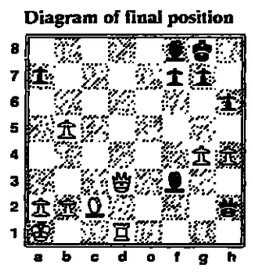
White: Neil McDonald
Black: Tim Wall
Coulsdon international May 1997

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	d6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	Nf6
5	Nc3	Nc6
6	Bg5	e6
7	Qd2	Be7
8	0-0-0	Nxd4
9	Qxd4	0-0
10	f4	Qa5
11	Kb1	Rd8
12	Qd2	Qc7
13	Bd3	h6
14	h4	Bd7
15	g4	Rac8
16	Bxf6	Bxf6
17	Ne2	Qb6
18	c3	Ba4
19	Rdf1	d5
20	e5	Be7
21	f5	Bc5
22	Rh3	d4
23	c4	Bb4
24	Qf4	Rc5
25	fxe6	Qxe6
26	Nxd4	Rxd4
27	Qxd4	Rxe5
28	Qd8+	Bf8
29	Rfh1	Bc6
30	Rhg1	Re3
31	Ka1	b5
32	cxb5	Bd5
33	Bb1	Re2
34	Rc1	Qe5
35	Rc2	Rxc2
36	Bxc2	Qh2
37	Rd1	Bf3
38	Qd3	

Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Final crosstable

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
McDonald	=	+	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	=	8
Rizos	+	+	=	+	0	1	=	+	1	1	6½
Michie	0	=	*	=	=	1	=	1	+	1	5½
Shaw	0	=	=	*	1	0	1	1	=	1	5½
Duncan	0	1	=	0	½	0	1	=	+	1	4½
Wall	0	0	0	1	1	*	=	1	=	=	4½
Timmermans	0	=	=	0	0	=	½	1	=	1	4
O'Haughnessy	0	=	0	0	=	=	0	½	=	1	3
Dunworth	0	0	=	0	=	0	=	+	½	=	2½
Franklin	=	0	0	=	0	=	0	0	=	½	2

In the above table, 1 represents a win, = a draw and 0 a loss

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

SALIAN
a. A naval officer
b. A South African lion
c. Priest of Mars in ancient Rome

SLUT
a. An abusive epithet for a woman
b. A sulphur and metal compound
c. An unwilling accomplice

SKEIGH
a. Scant
b. Spirited
c. Secret

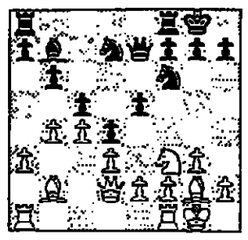
EVERSION
a. A fifth adaptation
b. An electrical occurrence
c. An overthrow

Answers on page 50

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Anand — Andersson, Monaco, 1997. At a high level, the win of a pawn usually spells defeat for the player who has lost it. In this game, Viswanathan Anand spotted a combination to net a pawn and went on to win easily. What did he play?



Solution on page 50

SAILING

Merricks maintains progress

By Edward Gorman, Sailing Correspondent

JOHN MERRICKS, Ian Walker and crew on the Great Britain Admiral's Cup team Mumm 36, *Bradamante*, have made a confident start to the Corel Mumm 36 world championships in Punta Ala, Italy. They are lying in second position after six races.

The oft-repeated but true fact about Merricks and Walker is that they are on a "very steep learning curve" in keel boats, having stepped into one for the first time only last year. However, this is becoming increasingly irrelevant as they demonstrate their ability to mix it with some of the most experienced keel boat experts in the world.

After scoring a fourteenth, then a first and a fourth in variable conditions on the first day, which put them fourth overall, they followed up yesterday with a consistent three results on windward/leewards of second, seventh and fourth.

In the first race of the day, Merricks had a good start, emerging at the windward mark for the first time in third position behind George Andreadis, of Greece, on *Atalanti VIII*, in second place and Antonio Orlandi, of Italy, on *Osama*, who led all the way; but, by the downwind turn, Merricks had got up to second, a position that he held almost unchallenged for the remainder of the race.

Going into the long offshore race today, the leader on 21pts is the German boat, *Thomas I-Punkt*, owned and skippered by Thomas Friese but steered by Gavin Brady, of New Zealand. Merricks is on 32pts, with *Jameson*, the American Admiral's Cup boat, third on 34pts. Orlandi is fourth on 35pts with Torben Grael, of Brazil, fifth with 37pts.

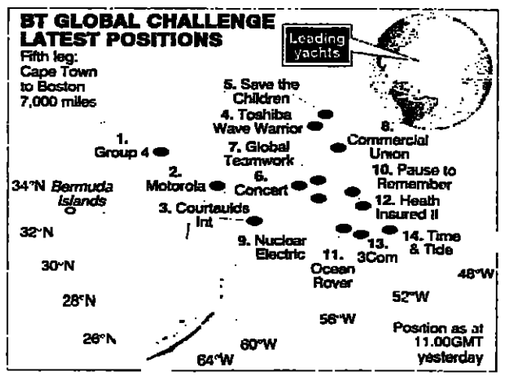
Meanwhile, in the double-handed Tour of Brittany, Marcus Hutchinson, of Great Britain, sailing with Michel Desjoyeaux, the French skipper, on *Sill Plein Fruit*, was leading after two of the planned eight races yesterday.

Hutchinson and Desjoyeaux posted a win in boisterous conditions in the first race on Sunday and then a second place in leg two on Monday. Last night, they were setting off on the 105-mile third leg, from Perros Guirec to Douarnenez, with virtually no wind forecast.

Other skippers in the 27-strong Figaro-Beneteau fleet include Thierry Dubois, a Vendée Globe survivor, who is eighth overall, and Damian Foxall, of Ireland, on *DHL*, who is in eleventh position.

BT GLOBAL CHALLENGE LATEST POSITIONS

Fifth leg: Cape Town to Boston 7,000 miles



DISTANCE TO FINISH (at 14.00 GMT yesterday, with miles to Bermuda): 1. Group 4 771; 2. Motorola 921; 3. Courtaulds International 1,052; 4. Toshiba Wave Warrior 1,094; 5. Save the Children 1,108; 6. Concert 1,131; 7. Global Teamwork 1,160; 8. Commercial Union 1,162; 9. Nuclear Electric 1,175; 10. Pause to Remember 1,230; 11. Ocean Rover 1,256; 12. Heath Insured II 1,270; 13. 3Com 1,292; 14. Time and Tide 1,355

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LIVE INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL

6/5 ITALY 9/4 DRAW ENGLAND 7/4

Nantes, Kick-off 7.30pm, Live on Sky.

CORRECT SCORE

ITALY	SCORE TO BE	ENG.
11/2	1-0	6/1
8/1	2-0	11/1
8/1	2-1	10/1
20/1	3-0	28/1
18/1	3-1	25/1
33/1	3-2	33/1
11/2	0-0	11/2
5/1	1-1	5/1
18/1	2-2	18/1

Other scores on request.

DOUBLE RESULT

H/TIME	F/TIME	
ITALY	ITALY	5/2
ITALY	DRAW	14/1
ITALY	ENGLAND	28/1
DRAW	ITALY	5/1
DRAW	DRAW	4/1
DRAW	ENGLAND	11/2
ENGLAND	ITALY	25/1
ENGLAND	DRAW	14/1
ENGLAND	ENGLAND	4/1

Bets void if 2nd half not started.

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RUGBY UNION: FORWARDS TO LAY FIRM FOUNDATIONS FOR STRENGTH AND SPEED BEHIND SCRUM

Jenkins can set Lions backs alight

FROM DAVID HANDS IN PRETORIA

THE British Isles take to the country today, to face one of the biggest packs and meanest defences that provincial rugby in South Africa can offer: Mpumalanga (the Zulu word meaning "place where the sun rises"), formerly South-Eastern Transvaal, may not rank among the top six sides in the country, but few teams travel to Witbank with confidence.

An hour's drive will bring the Lions to coalmining country and to the Johann van Riebeeck Stadium for the fourth match of their tour, with a combination which, in the right circumstances, could catch fire behind the scrum. The width of Neil Jenkins's passing could bring the best from Will Greenwood and Allan Bateman, while Nick Beal is anxious to make an impression from full back, his preferred position even though he was picked as a wing for this tour.

He has thrown off his tendinitis, his shin splints appear to be a figment of someone's imagination and Beal is now raring to go. "I'm looking forward to showing what I can do on a hard pitch," he said, an opinion echoed by all those who played in the quagmire at East London a week ago. "I find it easier to get involved in the game from full back, you have space to run in, you can pick your lines. I'm looking forward to the opportunity."

The party rested yesterday after their intense training the previous day — 46 scrums in 42 minutes and a dedicated lineout session in the afternoon left the match forwards drained — but the management believes that many of the scrummaging problems have been resolved. "Any pack we put out will be as heavy as most sides we play against, but we believe Mpumalanga will be the biggest," Jim Telfer, the assistant coach, said. "So we must beat them by being better technically, by getting lower than them."

Mpumalanga, who beat Wales 47-0 two years ago, include Elandre van der Berg in their second row. He played in the back row of the Eastern Province team that played a vicious match with England during their 1994 tour, van der Berg being identified as the player whose boot sliced open Jonathan Callard's head.

His reputation, however, is as a strong, supportive player rather than a violent one, and he has helped a team ranked seventh in the Currie Cup last season to a place in the semi-finals of the Nite Serjes this year.

Western Province, whom the Lions beat 38-21 on Saturday, beat Mpumalanga 31-17 in that tournament, but scored only one try against them, the rest of their points coming from penalty and dropped goals. They have brought in Gerry Gendall at centre for his first game of the season, but may look to the powerful boot of Reinhardt van As for points, as well as position.

The composition of the South Africa squad for the international against Tonga next Tuesday leaves Northern Transvaal free to play five internationals against the Lions on Saturday, though they will be without Andre Snyman, Joost van der Westhuizen, Reuben Kruger and Krynauw Otto. There is also speculation that Kobus Wiese and Hennie le Roux, the two World Cup players omitted from the party, may become the target for acquisitive English clubs.

"I have had offers from overseas and have put them on hold temporarily," Wiese, 33 and capped 15 times at lock, said, "but this is the last straw. If I cannot make a national squad of 27, my future does not seem to be here."

However, Carel du Plessis, the new South Africa coach, has emphasised that both players, who are contracted to the South African Rugby Football Union, may be restored if their performances against the Lions warrant it. "Players of quality can come again and perform at test level," du Plessis said.

DAVID ROGERS

The move of Jenkins to stand-off half could bring the best out of the Lions centres

TEAMS

MPUMALANGA: E van Greuve; J Wiese, R Felgate, G Gendall, P Nel; Engelbrecht, D van Zyl; A Botha, H Kemp, H Swart, P Jacobsen, E van der Berg, M Bosman, F Rossouw, T Oosthuizen.

BRITISH ISLES XV: N Beal (Northampton and England), I Evans (Llanelli and Wales), A Bateman (Richmond and Wales), W Greenwood (Leicester), T Underwood (Newcastle and England); N Jenkins (Pontypridd and Wales), M Dawson (Northampton and England); T Smith (Watsonians and Scotland), K Wood (Harlequins and Ireland), P Wallace (Saracens and Ireland), R Wainwright (Watsonians, Army and Scotland), G Weir (Newcastle and Scotland), J Davidson (Lancaster, Irish and Ireland), N Back (Leicester and England), T Rodber (Northampton, Army and England, captain).

Referee: C Scholtznerberg (Western Province).

Catt's departure leaves Rowell in a quandary

FROM MARK SOUSTER IN MENDOZA

JUST when things were going so well for England in Argentina, the player whose inspirational form had done so much to make the first half of the tour a success was whisked away to join the British Isles squad in South Africa.

Until Mike Catt's enforced departure, the game against Cuyo in Mendoza last night had little bearing on the shape of the international team. Suddenly, however, this last midweek fixture assumed huge relevance as Jack Rowell began the delicate task of rebuilding his back division before the second meeting with Argentina on Saturday.

The loss of his first-choice stand-off half means that Rowell must choose between several possible permutations at full back and No 10 for the decisive international in Buenos Aires. The match last night against Cuyo, who, without Federico Mendez and Richard Grau, both former players, are the weakest of Argentina's provincial sides, will have helped to clarify Rowell's thinking, but the arrival of Jon Callard, Catt's replacement, today complicates the picture still further.

Mark Mapletoft played at full back against Cuyo last night, with Alex King at stand-off half, but only one of those two will play against Argentina on Saturday. The fact that Callard has been called up suggests that England have grave concerns about the reliability of Mapletoft and King — who, to add to his problems, has a nagging groin injury — as the front-line goalkickers.

Mapletoft has recovered well from his unhappy experiences in the game against Buenos Aires, however, and the likelihood is that he will revert to his club position and play at No 10 on Saturday, with Jim Mallinder remaining as international full back and Callard on the bench.

It would be a grave injustice if Mallinder were to lose his place through no fault of his own. It would not help morale, which has been such an important factor in the success of the tour. Yet King offers a more physical presence at stand-off half and England might opt for him and Callard. It is, indeed, a quandary that will tax Rowell over the next 48 hours.

Steve Diamond, of Sale, arrived here less than three hours before the game yesterday and was immediately taken to Mendoza rugby club's ground to make his debut. It was asking a lot of the abrasive hooker, but he, no doubt, relished being a part of the midweek team whose performance against Argentina A last Tuesday helped to inspire England to their impressive victory in the first international last weekend.

THE LEADING 100 ENTRIES IN THE TIMES INTERACTIVE TEAM CRICKET GAME

Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts
1	Kim's Best (D Geraghty)	6874
2	Fantasy Formbk E (G Crutchley)	6771
3	Doodyfeds (J Royston)	6754
4	Ian's Imperials (I Johnston)	6662
5	Fantasy Formbk H (G Crutchley)	6639
6	Fantasy Formbk G (G Crutchley)	6608
7	Star Wars 2 (Z Ali)	6584
8	Tommer's Terrers (P Tompkins)	6539
9	Dave's Dependables (D Tarroo)	6537
10	Burn Bridge Strays (JS Hutchinson)	6534
11	The Hustler (J Huckerby)	6457
12	= Friday Night Room (I Ellis)	6404
12	= Tobitt (A Luckhurst)	6404
14	Colemanshire Becko (D Coleman)	6402
15	Gazza's Guys (C Hawkins)	6387
16	Four Ian Bothams (P Johnson)	6380
17	Spinattack (I De Silva)	6376
18	(D Sharp)	6365
19	(—)	6359
20	The Accy Millers (DG Kennedy)	6337
21	The First XV (M Pawley)	6336
22	= F A N D (D Sale)	6331
22	= Sale's XI (D Sale)	6331
24	Over And Out (AE Ford)	6325
25	The Warne Factor (D Finlay)	6322
26	Jenny's Vintage No (—)	6311
27	14 Lobs (P Johnson)	6299
28	Sultan Of Spin (D Finlay)	6295
29	Dave's Demons (D Taggoon)	6293
30	Wombes Allstars (KJ Davis)	6290
31	Windy's Warriors (G Miller)	6288
32	M J S 1 (M Squared)	6284
33	Stewart's Stars (S Farrar)	6266
34	Ace All Rounders (A Eade)	6265
35	Tessmungus (J Eaton)	6260
36	AARON First XI (P Edwards)	6254
37	In The Pavilion (D Centini)	6251
38	(R Knowle)	6244
39	Jayben XI (K Jenkinson)	6241
40	= Batman For Ever (R Rae)	6230
40	= Smart Money (J Smart)	6230
40	= Polly's Batters (W Wilson)	6230
43	The Cavalry (I Farmer)	6226
44	Happy Hicks Eleven (I Archer)	6225
45	Ward's Wickstaker (AB Ward)	6223
46	Bread Of Heaven (A Nuttall)	6221
47	The All Stars (Miss D Watts)	6216
48	Friday Night XI (B McFerran)	6213
49	Byased Yorkers XI (T Norfolk)	6211
50	Bailey Beaters (PD Armitage)	6204
51	Dolly The Sheep (K Curnon)	6200
52	Wicket Kings (D Fenton)	6197
53	Low And Go H A P (N Johns)	6193
54	= All Rounders XI (N Pember)	6192
54	= Slightly Byased (M Trovell)	6192
56	The Twins (B Collinson)	6188
57	= Gazza's Gorillas (C Hawkins)	6180
57	= Godza All Vanders (P Mason)	6180
59	= The 1997 XI (Miss JM Hutchin)	6176
59	= Jenshire 1 (JP Thackray)	6176
61	Kalb's Corkers 1 (N Kalb)	6175
62	Gough Mixures (J Hood)	6171
63	W G Grace XI (SC Plant)	6169
64	The Ton Machine (N Kalb)	6166
65	= Iain I (Miss C Jackson)	6165
65	= 8 Miles High (R Rae)	6165
67	Alleyne's Army (J Coulter)	6161
68	No Lancs Allowed (I Marshall)	6155
69	Meadlesex A (DJ Mead)	6148
70	Beads Up North (P Job)	6147
71	Huge Hicksters (J Hall)	6131
72	= Lynn's Lions (D Nicol)	6128
72	= Teddy 2 (B Bare)	6128
74	(A Hoyes)	6127
75	Worrall's Wonders (D Worrall)	6123
76	Gone Batty (P Daniels)	6120
77	Fantasy Phonebook (G Crutchley)	6118
78	= Bacardi Boys (M Woodley)	6117
78	= Caroline C (A Luckhurst)	6117
80	Fine Beard W G (C Jenkins)	6113
81	Final Shot (AJ Clark)	6112
82	Cod And Chips Part (P Stebbings)	6102
83	Porus (W Clarke)	6101
84	= Oddballs First XI (E Buckland)	6100
84	= Meg's Eleven (S Simmons)	6100
86	= Llahoi Bonza (CM Jones)	6099
86	= Hound Dogs VIII (D Rushton)	6099
88	K T S 1 (Mrs KT Sullivan)	6097
89	Webbers Post (EG Evans)	6092
90	Gun Machine 2 (I)	6090
91	= (Sley)	6085
91	= Tiger Wood CC (P Barlow)	6085
93	Speckled Trout (T Edwards)	6082
94	Caroline A (—)	6079
95	= Three Lobs (P Johnson)	6078
95	= No Such Luck (SR Harrison)	6078
97	The Magnificent Te (E Langley)	6076
98	Jones Boys 2 (Mr)	6075
99	= Ailsa Angels (A Wood)	6073
100	Shadow Leader 26 (D Finley)	6071

INTERACTIVE TEAM CRICKET SCOREBOARD

The scores in brackets are the points scored in the past week; *the other scores are the cumulative points scored* since the start of the season. The figures include all matches completed by June 2. Overseas players are shown in **bold type**. Rising Stars in *italic*.

Batsmen (001-146)

Category A

Player (no)	Runs	Wkts	Ct/St	Total
C J Adams (001)	436 (98)	0 (0)	8 (1)	621 (123)
G F Archer (002)	238 (80)	3 (0)	12 (4)	488 (140)
M A Atherton (003)	355 (149)	0 (0)	3 (1)	440 (179)
C W J Athey (004)	451 (0)	0 (0)	7 (0)	496 (0)
R J Bailey (005)	484 (147)	1 (0)	6 (2)	654 (192)
K J Barnett (006)	66 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	66 (0)
D J Bicknell (007)	78 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	78 (0)
G S Blewett (008)	149 (121)	0 (0)	1 (1)	179 (151)
D C Boon (009)	387 (98)	0 (0)	5 (1)	502 (123)
P D Bowler (010)	332 (141)	3 (1)	8 (3)	527 (226)
A D Brown (011)	329 (71)	0 (0)	1 (0)	344 (76)
M A Butcher (012)	206 (41)	0 (0)	6 (0)	291 (41)
P A Cottey (013)	205 (36)	1 (0)	8 (3)	370 (96)
J P Crawley (014)	352 (102)	0 (0)	0 (0)	357 (87)
K M Curran (015)	450 (212)	6 (4)	4 (1)	656 (362)
M T G Elliott (016)	202 (201)	0 (0)	0 (0)	217 (216)
N H Fairbrother (017)	330 (105)	0 (0)	4 (3)	405 (170)
J E R Gallian (018)	534 (215)	4 (4)	6 (0)	734 (310)
M W Gatting (019)	361 (108)	0 (0)	10 (3)	536 (158)
G A Gooch (020)	93 (38)	0 (0)	5 (0)	173 (18)
M L Hayden (021)	753 (472)	4 (0)	4 (2)	938 (542)
D L Hemp (022)	383 (263)	0 (0)	5 (3)	483 (343)
G A Hick (023)	436 (150)	2 (0)	9 (2)	676 (200)
A J Hollioake (024)	196 (0)	10 (2)	1 (0)	425 (40)
N Hussain (025)	252 (161)	0 (0)	3 (0)	302 (166)
S P James (026)	595 (198)	0 (0)	4 (0)	710 (208)
D M Jones (027)	357 (88)	0 (0)	8 (1)	492 (113)
J H Kallis (028)	259 (127)	11 (2)	6 (2)	594 (217)
N V Knight (029)	347 (227)	0 (0)	3 (1)	427 (262)
J S Laney (030)	30 (3)	0 (0)	1 (0)	50 (2)
M N Lathwell (031)	164 (83)	1 (0)	5 (4)	229 (163)
G D Lloyd (032)	342 (220)	0 (0)	4 (2)	422 (275)
M B Loye (033)	172 (0)	0 (0)	2 (0)	217 (0)
M P Maynard (034)	288 (156)	0 (0)	7 (5)	438 (266)
A McGrath (035)	145 (0)	0 (0)	3 (0)	156 (-20)
R R Montgomerie (036)	174 (53)	0 (0)	3 (1)	194 (53)
T M Moody (037)	187 (23)	1 (0)	3 (0)	287 (23)
H Morris (038)	416 (157)	0 (0)	2 (0)	476 (167)
M D Moxon (039)	50 (17)	0 (0)	0 (0)	30 (17)
T L Penney (040)	303 (132)	0 (0)	5 (3)	413 (197)
M R Ramprakash (041)	430 (114)	0 (0)	2 (0)	500 (124)
R T Robinson (042)	137 (0)	0 (0)	2 (0)	182 (0)
P V Simmons (043)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
M J Slater (044)	18 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	18 (0)
B F Smith (045)	241 (129)	0 (0)	2 (2)	271 (174)
R A Smith (046)	346 (50)	0 (0)	1 (1)	356 (70)
A J Stewart (047)	247 (0)	0 (0)	10/1 (4)	457 (80)
M A Taylor (048)	116 (96)	0 (0)	0 (0)	101 (83)
G P Thorpe (049)	455 (73)	0 (0)	6 (0)	640 (78)
M P Vaughan (050)	527 (312)	6 (3)	1 (0)	677 (372)
T R Ward (051)	242 (40)	0 (0)	3 (2)	312 (80)
M E Waugh (052)	229 (96)	1 (0)	0 (0)	259 (103)
S R Waugh (053)	195 (135)	0 (0)	4 (2)	280 (180)
A P Wells (054)	280 (52)	0 (0)	1 (1)	305 (72)
V J Wells (055)	379 (236)	5 (1)	4 (1)	519 (271)
W P C Weston (056)	306 (89)	0 (0)	3 (0)	381 (94)
J J Whitaker (057)	231 (151)	0 (0)	5 (3)	301 (221)

Category B

Player (no)	Runs	Wkts	Ct/St	Total
D A Blenkiron (058)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
D Byas (059)	516 (170)	0 (0)	8 (6)	706 (300)
M E Cassar (060)	73 (0)	3 (0)	0 (0)	113 (0)
G R Cowdrey (061)	399 (148)	2 (0)	1 (1)	469 (173)
R J Cunliffe (062)	233 (61)	0 (0)	2 (0)	238 (66)
T S Curtis (063)	158 (102)	0 (0)	2 (0)	208 (112)
A Dale (064)	284 (87)	5 (0)	0 (0)	379 (92)
J A Daley (065)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
R I Dawson (066)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
M P Dowman (067)	141 (28)	2 (0)	2 (1)	207 (28)
A W Evans (068)	3 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3 (0)
A Flintoff (069)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
A Fordham (070)	44 (0)	0 (0)	2 (0)	84 (0)
D P Fulton (071)	188 (94)	0 (0)	6 (2)	313 (139)
A P Grayson (072)	347 (97)	12 (5)	8 (2)	737 (217)
K Greenfield (073)	216 (0)	1 (0)	3 (0)	276 (0)
A Habib (074)	324 (113)	0 (0)	5 (0)	449 (113)
T H C Hancock (075)	165 (15)	2 (0)	5 (1)	310 (35)
R J Harden (076)	384 (40)	0 (0)	5 (1)	488 (40)
J C Hamson (077)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
A N Hayhurst (078)	12 (0)	2 (0)	0 (0)	52 (0)
G R Haynes (079)	405 (170)	11 (4)	2 (0)	680 (260)
D R Hewson (080)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
A J Hibbert (081)	17 (0)	0 (0)	3 (0)	77 (0)
T P Hodgson (082)	119 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)	143 (0)
P C L Holloway (083)	139 (87)	0 (0)	2 (0)	174 (92)
W J House (084)	112 (0)	0 (0)	3 (0)	177 (0)
S Hutton (085)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
P Johnson (086)	461 (8)	0 (0)	7 (2)	611 (28)
M Keech (087)	46 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)	66 (0)
W S Kendall (088)	325 (120)	0 (0)	4 (2)	410 (165)
G J Kennis (089)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
R A Kettleborough (090)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
G A Khan (091)	108 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	113 (0)
W G Khan (092)	102 (0)	0 (0)	2 (0)	142 (0)
D A Leatherdale (093)	204 (61)	10 (6)	0 (0)	424 (216)
N J Lenham (094)	102 (45)	0 (0)	2 (1)	142 (65)
J J B Lewis (095)	176 (34)	0 (0)	4 (0)	261 (34)
N J Llong (096)	135 (45)	2 (0)	3 (2)	215 (65)
M A Lynch (097)	272 (0)	0 (0)	2 (0)	322 (0)
G I Macmillan (098)	39 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)	58 (0)
D L Maddy (099)	401 (96)	1 (0)	7 (1)	536 (81)
M R May (100)	94 (94)	0 (0)	0 (0)	99 (99)
P C McIlvenny (101)	83 (0)	0 (0)	2 (0)	123 (0)
A A Metcalfe (102)	81 (26)	0 (0)	1 (0)	101 (26)
S P Moffat (103)	184 (18)	0 (0)	4 (2)	249 (38)
A J Moles (104)	283 (176)	0 (0)	6 (3)	418 (246)
J E Morris (105)	480 (169)	0 (0)	2 (1)	525 (179)
K Newell (106)	241 (0)	8 (0)	1 (0)	431 (0)
D P Ostler (107)	332 (150)	0 (0)	6 (0)	467 (156)
J E Owen (108)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
K A Parsons (109)	40 (11)	3 (0)	4 (0)	180 (11)
S D Peters (110)	117 (15)	0 (0)	1 (0)	147 (15)
P R Pollard (111)	80 (0)	0 (0)	4 (0)	160 (0)
J C Pooley (112)	163 (57)	0 (0)	4 (0)	248 (62)
M J Powell (113)	20 (0)	0 (0)	2 (0)	69 (0)
P J Prichard (114)	202 (13)	0 (0)	4 (1)	272 (13)
T A Radford (115)	131 (127)	0 (0)	3 (1)	181 (157)
R K Rao (116)	196 (96)	2 (1)	4 (3)	306 (181)
J D Ratcliffe (117)	108 (0)	2 (0)	0 (0)	128 (0)
D J Roberts (118)	81 (63)	0 (0)	1 (0)	101 (63)
D D J Robinson (119)	117 (30)	0 (0)	2 (0)	162 (30)
A S Rollins (120)	131 (81)	0 (0)	2 (0)	136 (86)
M A Roseberry (121)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
D J G Sales (122)	23 (13)	0 (0)	0 (0)	23 (13)
D A Shah (123)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
N Shahid (124)	177 (3)	0 (0)	3 (1)	217 (23)
A Singh (125)	156 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)	186 (0)
E T Smith (126)	172 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)	202 (0)
N J Speak (127)	287 (109)	0 (0)	1 (0)	297 (114)
K R Spring (128)	255 (61)	0 (0)	3 (0)	300 (61)
J P Stephenson (129)	143 (0)	12 (0)	5 (0)	483 (0)
I J Sudbiffe (130)	9 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	9 (0)
A J Swann (131)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
N R Taylor (132)	182 (0)	0 (0)	3 (0)	247 (0)
S P Titchard (133)	35 (0)	2 (0)	1 (0)	85 (0)
N J Trainor (134)	200 (121)	0 (0)	0 (0)	150 (131)
M E Trescothick (135)	24 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)	44 (0)
T A Tweats (136)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
M J Walker (137)	350 (203)	0 (0)	3 (2)	430 (258)
M A Wagh (138)	116 (47)	5 (2)	4 (1)	261 (87)
C D Walsh (139)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
T C Walton (140)	159 (13)	0 (0)	1 (0)	189 (13)
P E Wellings (141)	13 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)	33 (0)
R M S Weston (142)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
P R Whitaker (143)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
G W White (144)	265 (105)	0 (0)	3 (1)	335 (130)
M G N Windows (145)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
A J Wright (146)	154 (16)	0 (0)	3 (1)	194 (36)

All-rounders (147-185)

Player (no)	Runs	Wkts	Ct/St	Total
M W Alleyne (147)	230 (20)	16 (0)	2 (0)	610 (20)
I D Austin (148)	152 (15)	11 (3)	2 (1)	377 (95)
M G Bevan (149)	324 (178)	3 (2)	3 (3)	469 (293)
D R Brown (150)	264 (39)	24 (6)	2 (1)	784 (189)
G P Butcher (151)	88 (0)	6 (2)	1 (0)	213 (40)
D J Capel (152)	184 (119)	7 (5)	1 (0)	359 (234)
P D Collingwood (153)	187 (29)	2 (1)	8 (3)	392 (109)
D G Cork (154)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
R D B Croft (155)	279 (75)	19 (3)	4 (1)	759 (155)
P A J DeFreitas (156)	79 (32)	11 (3)	2 (1)	349 (112)
V C Drakes (157)	8 (0)	8 (0)	2 (0)	188 (0)
K P Dutch (158)	28 (4)	5 (1)	0 (0)	128 (24)
M A Ealham (159)	277 (173)	16 (6)	5 (3)	722 (363)
S C Ecclestone (160)	167 (8)	0 (0)	1 (0)	192 (8)
K P Evans (161)	130 (36)	20 (4)	3 (1)	580 (139)
M V Fleming (162)	161 (62)	19 (12)	3 (1)	611 (332)
J P Hewitt (163)	61 (3)	27 (8)	1 (0)	571 (183)
K J Innes (164)	8 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	8 (0)
R C Irani (165)	263 (210)	10 (3)	1 (1)	493 (300)
K D James (166)	205 (0)	5 (1)	1 (0)	300 (-20)
B P Julian (167)	74 (74)	5 (5)	1 (1)	199 (199)
S R Lampitt (168)	87 (36)	8 (6)	2 (2)	267 (196)
D R Law (169)	324 (72)	10 (0)	3 (2)	604 (112)
S G Law (170)	509 (173)	1 (0)	6 (2)	679 (218)
C C Lewis (171)	91 (0)	8 (3)	1 (0)	271 (60)
C Morris (172)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
A L Penberthy (173)	339 (118)	3 (1)	1 (0)	419 (143)
G M Roberts (174)	33 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	33 (0)
N M K Smith (175)	403 (183)	2 (1)	2 (0)	513 (218)
J N Snape (176)	105 (34)	15 (1)	7 (4)	555 (134)
V S Solanki (177)	259 (54)	0 (0)	0 (0)	249 (34)
P A Strang (178)	192 (77)	16 (4)	4 (1)	567 (182)
C M Tolley (179)	147 (0)	8 (1)	2 (1)	332 (30)
Wasim Akram (180)	48 (0)	6 (0)	2 (0)	208 (0)
M Walkinson (181)	45 (18)	3 (0)	1 (0)	125 (18)
P N Weekes (182)	222 (47)	6 (1)	10 (3)	547 (127)
C M Wells (183)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
C White (184)	104 (16)	18 (7)	6 (2)	504 (156)
S Young (185)	138 (1)	11 (0)	3 (1)	423 (21)

Wicketkeepers (186-216)

Player (no)	Runs	Wkts	Ct/St	Total
A N Aymes (186)	81 (20)	0 (0)	11/4 (3/1)	461 (120)
J N Batty (187)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
R J Blakey (188)	252 (96)	0 (0)	22/1 (8)	697 (221)
I R Brown (189)	374 (76)	0 (0)	14/2 (4/1)	754 (201)
M Burns (190)	262 (51)	3 (1)	8/1 (2)	472 (91)
C A Chapman (191)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
I Dawood (192)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
T Frost (193)	12 (0)	0 (0)	12/1 (1)	252 (0)
S P Griffiths (194)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
I A Healy (195)	121 (70)	0 (0)	3 (2)	181 (110)
W K Hegg (196)	131 (65)	0 (0)	13/4 (0/2)	556 (151)
B J Hyam (197)	29 (0)	0 (0)	5 (0)	109 (0)
D A Kenway (198)	22 (22)	2 (2)	1 (1)	82 (82)
K M Krikken (199)	109 (27)	0 (0)	16 (1)	429 (47)
D G C Ligertwood (200)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
S A Marsh (201)	216 (7)	0 (0)	15 (7)	526 (147)
C P Metson (202)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
P Moores (203)	88 (0)	0 (0)	10/1 (0)	328 (0)
P A Nixon (204)	248 (122)	0 (0)	15/3 (7/2)	658 (347)
W M Noon (205)	170 (75)	0 (0)	16/2 (1/1)	556 (135)
K J Piper (206)	1 (0)	0 (0)	4 (0)	67 (-20)
S J Rhodes (207)	106 (48)	0 (0)	17 (6)	406 (169)
D Ripley (208)	187 (51)	0 (0)	9/1 (2)	377 (76)
R J Rollins (209)	108 (104)	0 (0)	4/5 (3)	373 (149)
R C Russell (210)	287 (20)	0 (0)	15/5 (4/1)	802 (140)
A D Shaw (211)	107 (33)	0 (0)	8/1 (4)	267 (113)
M P Speight (212)	308 (36)	0 (0)	16 (2)	638 (76)
R J Turner (213)	283 (227)	0 (0)	12 (5)	533 (337)
R J Warren (214)	12 (12)	0 (0)	1 (1)	32 (32)
P Whiticase (215)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
R C J Williams (216)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)

Bowlers (217-347)

Category A

Player (no)	Runs	Wkts	Ct/St	Total
J A Afford (217)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
S J W Andrew (218)	0 (0)	1 (0)	0 (0)	20 (0)
M C J Ball (219)	104 (25)	6 (4)	5 (0)	324 (105)
R T Bailey (220)	21 (17)	10 (6)	2 (1)	221 (137)
J E Benjamin (221)	10 (0)	6 (1)	1 (1)	150 (40)
M M Betts (222)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
M P Bicknell (223)	142 (0)	13 (3)	3 (0)	467 (60)
J N B Bovill (224)	16 (8)	14 (7)	1 (0)	296 (148)
M T Brimson (225)	25 (0)	9 (3)	2 (0)	205 (40)
S J E Brown (226)	42 (11)	11 (3)	1 (0)	242 (71)
A R Caddick (227)	87 (58)	34 (11)	1 (0)	777 (268)
G Chapple (228)	98 (63)	12 (4)	1 (0)	343 (148)
C A Connor (229)	23 (0)	5 (0)	0 (0)	83 (-20)
A P Cowan (230)	127 (55)	10 (1)	1 (0)	347 (75)
D M Cox (231)	24 (24)	3 (3)	0 (0)	64 (64)
R P Davis (232)	34 (30)	7 (1)	2 (0)	194 (50)
A A Donald (233)	16 (1)	18 (0)	4 (0)	458 (1)
A R C Fraser (234)	80 (32)	13 (3)	1 (0)	340 (82)
A F Giles (235)	224 (87)	18 (3)	2 (1)	614 (172)
J N Gillespie (236)	19 (10)	5 (4)	2 (2)	159 (130)
D Gough (237)	93 (58)	29 (7)	2 (0)	723 (208)
A J Harris (238)	69 (31)	12 (2)	2 (0)	348 (71)
P J Hartley (239)	175 (35)	16 (2)	2 (1)	525 (95)
D W Headley (240)	6 (0)	3 (0)	0 (0)	66 (0)
R K Illingworth (241)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
M C Ilott (242)	63 (30)	17 (6)	0 (0)	363 (130)
P W Jarvis (243)	132 (0)	17 (0)	3 (0)	547 (0)
R L Johnson (244)	94 (29)	24 (5)	1 (0)	574 (129)
G Kneeshaw (245)	0 (0)	7 (3)	0 (0)	140 (60)
R J Kirtley (246)	0 (0)	2 (2)	0 (0)	40 (40)
J D Lewry (247)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
M J McCague (248)	51 (14)	24 (8)	5 (0)	631 (174)
G D McGrath (249)	1 (0)	4 (1)	0 (0)	61 (0)
D E Malcolm (250)	8 (0)	24 (0)	0 (0)	468 (0)
P J Martin (251)	62 (4)	16 (1)	1 (1)	412 (44)
R J Maru (252)	75 (0)	4 (1)	3 (0)	195 (0)
D J Millns (253)	140 (13)	19 (4)	3 (1)	590 (113)
Mohammad Akram (254)	20 (0)	6 (1)	0 (0)	150 (20)
A D Mullally (255)	12 (3)	25 (9)	1 (0)	522 (193)
T A Munton (256)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Mushtaq Ahmed (257)	81 (24)	13 (3)	1 (0)	371 (84)
P J Newport (258)

Chance to enter world of mystery

SIMON BARNES

Midweek View

Scenes of joy at Epsom after the Derby, the ultimate goal for would-be breeders. Now the dream may not be as distant

To enter any aspect of the horsey life is to enter a world of mystery. That is as true for once-a-year Derby punters as it is for grand prix dressage riders, brewers' draymen, weekend riders and racehorse trainers — but the mystery of mysteries is breeding.

Why don't people ride zebras? I have been asked that question a thousand times in the heart of the African bush, and I always reply airily: "Oh, it's nothing that 100,000 years of selective breeding couldn't put right." Horses — thoroughbred, shire, Cleveland Bay, New Forest pony — all have about them something of human artefact, and all have something untouchably wild.

At racing yards, they do not call horses by their names. Earlier this spring, I had the joy of watching the two-year-olds gallop for the first time at John Dunlop's yard in Arundel. "That's a Shirley Heights . . . this next one is out of a nice Sadler's Wells mare . . ." By their pedigree you shall know them.

As the runners parade before the Derby at Epsom on Saturday, most of us will see a file of horses, each in its way bewilderingly lovely; but those who know, those who have begun to penetrate the mystery of mysteries, will see not an individual, but also sire and dam, grandsire, the significant sire on the distaff side, on and on back into the mists of generation, horse upon horse upon horse, parading in the paddock as giants in time.

Racing is about the seeking of the inner ring: the urge to penetrate from outside into the elusive heart of things. It is also about anticipation, the fizz before the race: so much more reliable than the uncertain pleasures of afterwards. The fizz can be purchased for the price of a bet.

If you seek longer and keener anticipation, and the penetration to a deeper level of the equine mystery, then becoming an owner is the thing. Expensive, of course, but these days there are hundreds of schemes for joint-ownership, shares, racing clubs. The pleasures of ownership have been democratised.

The way to penetrate still deeper into the mystery, and to stretch still further the delights of anticipation, is to become a breeder. There are two drawbacks to this: one, it can be crucifyingly expensive; two, such a course is available only to the horsiest of horsey insiders.

However, as Dunlop's two-year-olds skittered and spooked after their inaugural gallop, half mightily made up by their achievements, half alarmed at their own abilities, I heard about a scheme, put together by Dunlop and the National Stud in Newmarket, to democratise breeding.

Under the scheme, you can buy a five-year interest in ten broodmares for £750. Thus the anticipation begins. On to the selection of stallions, the primal event itself, the birth of the crazy-legged foals, their brief idyllic summer, their sale, and on to their training, even while the stallion selection, and with it the whole cycle, begins again. Then to the racing of the progeny, and on and on, perhaps with the progeny entering the breeding stock of the thoroughbred nation. Members might even make a profit.

There is nothing more life-enhancing than young horses; in their own wild selves, in the wild and generally demented hopes that are invested in them. Ten minutes at the National Stud will tell you that. "I gotta a young horse," Charlie Whittingham, the American trainer, once told me, having then just turned 80. "No one with a young horse ever committed suicide."

I would certainly have joined the Breeders Club myself, but I am a breeder already, and I still get letters from Weatherbys to prove it, letters that begin, enchantingly, "Dear Breeder, . . ." I have even been congratulated on my canniness in sire selection, in going for the vigorous outcross.

Needless to say, it was a complete fluke, and perhaps the most wonderfully joyous thing I have ever done with horses, and I have done a few. The plan was to sell the foal on at six months. He is now five and just starting to jump, even with the considerable handicap of having me on his back while he does so.

He is, breeding fans, a son of Sykes, a grandson of Meadow Court, who won the King George and the Irish Derby, and who, in the same year at Epsom, was second in the Derby to the swiftest thing ever seen on four legs bar a cheetah, the great Sea Bird. Odd to think that my young horse, a strapping galoot named Bullseye, is also a giant in time, also part of the mystery of mysteries.

Racing is not about watching, it is about participating. My horse, you say, having placed your bet, cheap admission to the mysteries and joys. But the most profound level of participation in racing is through breeding.

Dear Breeder, . . .

☐ *To register for a Breeders Club prospectus, telephone 01638 663022.*

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 48

SALIAN

(c) Of or pertaining to the Salii or priests of Mars in ancient Rome. Also the name of a tribe of Franks who inhabited a region near the Zuyder Zee, and to whom the ancestors of the Merovingian dynasty belonged. Ancient Dutchmen. From the Latin *sali-us* usually used in the substantive plural *salii*, literally meaning "leapers, dancers" from the verb *salīre* to leap.

SLOY

(a) An opprobious epithet for a woman. Warner (1596) : "How tedious were a Shroe, a Sloy, a Wanton or a Foole."

SKEIGH

(b) Of horses: Inclined to shy; skittish, mettlesome, spirited. Of persons, especially women. Hence, shy, coy, disdainful, proud.

EVERSION

(c) The action of overthrowing; the condition of being overthrown: an overthrow; overturning.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. Nxd4! and, if Black recaptures the knight, then 2. Bxb7 nets White a clear pawn; while 1. . . . Bxg2; 2. Nf5 Qe6; 3. Qg5 also wins a pawn.

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EQUESTRIANISM

Phillips to help new Pony Club

By Jenny MacArthur

CAPTAIN Mark Phillips, who last year rejected the chance to train the Great Britain three-day event team in order to fulfil his obligations to the United States team, has accepted a training role in Britain's "new, liberated Pony Club," which was launched in London yesterday under the presidency of the Duke of Edinburgh.

Phillips's appointment to the training committee follows the Pony Club's emergence as an independent charity in the wake of its breakaway from the British Horse Society, its parent body, earlier this year.

Founded in 1929 "to promote instruction in riding and horsemanship and promote the highest ideals and sportsmanship," the Pony Club has kept pace with those ideals, but not with the growing number who ride. There are 364 branches involving 36,000 members, out of an estimated 500,000 riders in Britain between the ages of five and 15.

"Too many children don't join because they believe that the Pony Club is too pompous and only for the child with an expensive pony," Dawn Wofford, the chairman, said yesterday.

Plans for a big recruitment drive, aimed particularly at riders who do not have their own ponies, have been drawn up and centre on the formation of new Pony Club branches based at existing riding schools where children can hire ponies. Fund-raising schemes to raise capital are also being launched in order to keep subscription levels affordable for all.

Phillips, who said that his years with the Beaufort Pony Club had laid the foundation for his riding career, expressed delight at his new role. "Unlike the British Horse Society training committee, who are not able to agree on a national training policy, the Pony Club believes in and preaches the virtues of classical equitation, which is the basis of all success," Phillips said.

TELEVISION CHOICE

A moving political interview

The Chair
BBC2, 7.05pm

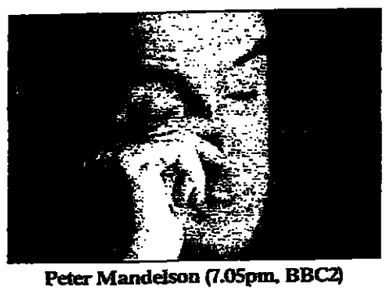
Public figures who break down on television are guaranteed a footnote in the history of the medium. Nobody who saw it all those years ago can forget how Gilbert Harding was reduced to tears when asked about the death of his mother. Peter Mandelson's little weep happens in an uncannily similar context, except that it is sparked by memories of losing his father. The display of grief is all the more poignant coming after Mandelson's revelation that he and his dad used to argue fiercely about the direction of Labour Party policy. Mandelson followed his mother, the moderate, rather than his father, a supporter of Militant. Mum is the daughter of Herbert Morrison, which gave young Mandelson an early taste of Labour politics. His brother is a clinical psychologist. Just like Oliver James, who conducts the interview.

Anxiety Attack
BBC2, 7.30pm

Last year, passengers on a flight from Majorca refused to allow a British couple and their five-year-old daughter on to the plane because the girl had had meningitis. That the disease had been caught and cured made no difference, but meningitis kills only 150-200 people a year. Radon gas, a carcinogen, kills 15 times as many but rarely makes the headlines. The first programme in a three-part series tries to establish how health scares originate and why they feature some conditions and not others. The key, it is suggested, is the media. Meningitis gets a high profile because the victims are often children, and children make a good human interest story. Newspapers also feed on uncertainty, as in the scare over the dangers of baby milk, for which there was no hard evidence.

University Challenge
BBC2, 8.00pm

As the student quiz prepares to sign off for another series, its entertainment value remains undiminished. A show that has run this long clearly has a perfect format. It is not just the range of questions, some of them wonderfully obscure even to reasonably well-stocked minds, but the possibility for a team to be 100 points adrift with time ticking by and still recover to win. Jeremy Paxman's blunt interventions, particularly his contempt for hopelessly wrong answers, add to the fun. The final tonight is between Magdalen College, Oxford, and the Open University. The OU team has grabbed the headlines for running up the biggest score in the competition and fielding the oldest contestant, but Magdalen's young quartet, quick on the buzzer and knowledgeable with it, have advanced impressively.



Peter Mandelson (7.05pm, BBC2)

Reputations: Bertrand Russell
BBC2, 9.00pm

The concluding part of Denys Blakeway's absorbing profile explores the paradox of public sage and private monster. One of Russell's granddaughters sets the theme: "I am fed up with people saying what a great humanitarian he was, when he didn't begin with charity at home. Everyone I knew as family wound up crazy or dead." The last statement is an exaggeration, but not much of one. Russell's gift for destroying his own family is matched only by his international reputation as a great thinker and moralist, though his best-known book, *A History of Western Philosophy*, is dismissed by Professor Roger Scruton as "lamentable". There is praise, though, for Russell's principled stand against nuclear weapons and we hear from Ralph Schoenman, the American criticised for manipulating Russell in his extreme old age.

Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

A Good Read
Radio 4 (FM only), 10.00am

The return of the series in which celebrities talk about their favourite reading. It may not be the most original idea, but it has worked, for the most part, surprisingly well because the guests are chosen for their interest in books rather than on the basis of their celebrity and the hope that their favourite book does not turn out to be the only one that they have read. Of course, there is always the chance that we shall learn something of interest about the guests themselves. The first programme features Terry Wogan and Edwina Currie, both of whom have chosen books with an Irish flavour. Currie's choice is *Felicity's Journey*, by William Trevor, and Wogan selects Frank McCourt's novel of childhood, *Angela's Ashes*.

20/20: A View of the Century
Radio 4, 7.45pm

A reader complained to me that the thing wrong with this series is Michael Ignatieff, the presenter: Why did it have to be an American? To which one can only respond: Why not? Today, Ignatieff argues that the computer is bringing a new industrial revolution, not only changing the way we work but also sweeping away the moral heritage of earlier industrial change. I am sceptical as to the extent of change that computers will bring, because people are generally gregarious and computers can be isolating, but there is no question that technology has changed the jobs landscape, which will cause problems if we do not create a highly trained and flexible workforce — but there will still be floors to sweep.

Peter Barnard

RADIO 1

7.00am Mark Radcliffe and Boy Lard **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Jo Whiley **2.00pm** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Kevin Greening **6.15** Newsbeat **6.30** Evening Session **8.30** Global Update **8.40** John Peel **10.30** Claire Sturgess **1.00am** Charlie Jordan **4.00** Clive Warren

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Ann Robinson **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** Chris Serle **7.00** Nick Barraclough **8.00** Folk on Two **9.00** Bright Young Things **9.30** Speaking Volumes **10.00** The Sexton's Tales **10.30** Richard Allinson **12.05am** Adrian Pringhan **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **9.00** The Magazine **12.00pm** Midday with Mair **2.00** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** Julian Worricker Nationwide **7.00** News Extra **7.20** International Football Commentary on England v Italy in the four-nation Tournoi de France from Nantes including at **8.10** the National Lottery result **9.30** Lions Rampant **10.00** News Talk **11.00** News Extra **12.00** After Hours **2.00am** Up All Night with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr **7.00** Paul Ross **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Lorraine Kelly **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Anna Raeburn **9.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. News on the hour. **6.00am** Newsday **6.30** Europe **7.15** World Today **7.45** Sports International **8.15** Off the Shelf **8.30** Meridian Live **9.10** Pause for Thought **9.15** Concert Hall **10.05** Business **10.15** Farming **10.30** Science File **10.45** Sport **11.30** One Planet **12.30pm** Sport **1.00** News in German **1.05** Business **1.15** Britain **1.30** Wildtrack **1.30** Sport **2.00** Newshour **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Megamix **4.05** Sport **4.15** Performance **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe **5.30** Business **5.45** Britain **6.15** World Today **6.30** News in German **6.45** Sport **7.30** The Works **8.01** Outlook **8.25** Pause for Thought **8.30** Multitrack **9.00** Newshour **10.05** Business **10.15** Britain Today **10.30** On Screen **11.30** World Today **11.45** Sport **12.05am** Outlook **12.30** Multitrack **1.30** From Our Own Correspondent **1.45** Britain **2.30** Omnibus **3.30** Meridian Books **4.05** Business **4.15** Sport **4.30** Europe

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **7.00** Mike Read **9.00** The Hall of Fame Hour **10.00** Henry Kelly **1.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto. Vivaldi (Bassoon Concerto No 7 in A minor RV 497); Bruch (Concerto for Clarinet & Viola in E minor) **3.00** Jamie Crick **7.00** Classic Newsnight **7.30** Sonata. Reinecke (Flute Sonata Op 167, Undine) **8.00** Evening Concert. Ravel (Bolero, Piano Concerto in G major); Debussy (Danse Sacree et Danse Profane); Part (Te Deum), Sibelius (Symphony No 7 in C major, Op 105) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Lunchtime Concerto (r)

VIRGIN RADIO

6.30am Russ 'n' Jono **10.00** Graham Dene **1.00pm** Jeremy Clark **4.00** Nicky Horne **6.00** Paul Coyte (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Richard Porter

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Penny Gore. Includes Janacek (String Quartet No 1, Kreutzer Sonata); Cimarosa (Chi per Pela mi Dice; Deh, Parlate, Il Sacrificio d'Abramo)
9.00 Morning Collection. Includes Boyce (Symphony in D, Op 2 No 5); Mozart (Piano Sonata in A minor, K310), Spohr (Nonet in F, Op 31)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Piers Burton-Page. Includes Palestrina (Missa Aeterna Christi Munera); Pfitzner (Symphony No 2); Schumann (Three Romances, Op 94); Nielsen (Overture. Helios); Warlock (The Curlew)
12.00 Composer of the Week: Dvořák Abroad
1.00pm News; Voices at the Wigmore Hall. The first of seven recitals given at the Wigmore Hall in London Nathan Berg, baritone, and Julius Drake, piano. Schumann (Lied eines Schmiedes; Meine Rose; Die Sennin; Requiem, Seven Songs, Op 90), Schoeck (Waldeinsamkeit; Kürze Fahrt, Eichendorff Lieder, Op 30, Im Wandern, Nachklang; Auf dem Rhein); Schumann (Dichterliebe)
2.00 Midweek Choice, with Susan Sharpe. Includes Bernstein (Glorin; Meditation No 2, Mass), Hanson (Symphony No 2, Romantic), Ellington (Three Dances, Black, Brown and Beige)
4.00 Choral Evensong. From Winchester Cathedral, organist and master of the music David Hill
5.00 Music Machine: Music for Spaces
5.15 In Tune, with Jeremy Nicholas. Includes Elgar (Pomp and Circumstance March No 5 in C), Moore (When He Who Adores Thee); Tchaikovsky, arr Pabst (Paraphrase on Sleeping Beauty)
6.00 Rush Hour Concert. Fiona Talkington presents the second of eight concerts live from the Wigmore Hall, London. Brindisi Quartet. Beethoven (String Quartet in B flat, Op 18 No 6); Janacek (String Quartet No 2, Intimate Letters)
7.00 Cocktails. Dajos Bela with his orchestra and vocalists Richard Tauber and Leo Monosson; Tommy Dorsey with singer and dancer Eleanor Powell
7.30 BBC Philharmonic. Concert conducted by Sakari Oramo, who succeeds Sir Simon Rattle as principal conductor of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. His wife, Anu Komsi, soprano, is soloist in Lutoslawsk's song cycle, written to texts by Robert Desnos. Lindberg (Away, in Memoriam Lutoslawski); Lutoslawski (Chantefleurs et Chantefables); Saariaho (Du Cristal), Nielsen (Symphony No 4, Inextinguishable)
8.55 A Wet Handle. Third in a five-part selection of songs, stories and poems by the humorist Ivor Cutler, with Craig Murray-Orr and Allison O'Kill
9.10 The Milan Collection. Presented by David Fallows. Orlando Consort, Robert Harre-Jones, countertenor, Charles Daniels, tenor, Angus Smith, tenor, Donald Greig, bass Josquin (Motet, Vultum Tuum Deprecabuntur); Compere (Officium de Cruce, In Nomine Jesu)
10.00 Ensemble. Penny Gore introduces a recital by the Marais Ensemble with narrator Simon James, including Martin Butler's settings of Roald Dahl
10.45 Night Waves. Patrick Wright reviews *Confessions of a Philosopher* by Bryan Magee. Plus a report from the Queen Elizabeth Hall where the poet James Fenton is collaborating with the composer Dominic Muldowney in *Image Music Text*
11.30 Composer of the Week: Korngold (r)
12.30am Jazz Notes. Digby Fairweather and Alyn Shipton review new jazz releases
1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW) 6.00 News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, includes Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Vice or Virtue. The third of six programmes that re-examine traditional vices and virtues. With Mark Lawson, Ann Leslie, Jonathon Porritt, Peter Stanford and A.N. Wilson
10.00 News; A Good Read (FM). See Choice
10.00 Daily Service (LW) 10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.30 Woman's Hour, with Jenni Murray. Includes a report from Kathleen Griffin on why there are so few women in French politics
11.30 Gardeners' Question Time, with Eric Robson, Nigel Colborn, Pippa Greenwood, and Anne Swithinbank (r)
12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer news and current affairs with Lesley Riddoch
12.25pm The Oldest Member. Maurice Denham stars in the fifth of six stories by P G Wodehouse. With Jon Glover and David Simeon **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; A Grove of Straight Trees, by Nick Warburton. Starring Gavin Muir, Richard Pearce and Don McCorkindale (r)
2.45 Treasure Islands. Publishers launch 8,000 new titles for children every year. Michael Rosen asks how this effects retailers, writers and readers
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Dave Brohan and the guests of the day
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Gambaccini examines a new biography of Frank Sinatra and discusses a week of all-action film releases
4.45 Short Story: Essex Dogs, by D J Taylor. Read by Chris Scott
5.00 PM. Presented by Chris Lowe **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 Brain of Britain. The first round of the nationwide general knowledge quiz reaches the North of England. Chaired by Robert Robinson (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Face the Facts, with John Waite and his dedicated team of investigators
7.45 20/20 A View of the Century. See Choice
8.30 Your Place or Mine? A series of documentaries telling stories that cross boundaries of geography and generation. This week young dancers prepare for the World Junior Ballroom Championship under the spotlights at Blackpool (4/8)
9.00 Eureka! Barbara Myers talks to Dr Anne McLaren whose work on mouse embryos in the 1950s was the foundation for in vitro fertilisation (3/4)
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: A Month in the Country, by J L Carr, read by Samuel West (8/8) (r)
11.00 Twenty Players. A new series of fictional sporting heroes begins with John Motson telling the story of the football tactician and part-time archaeologist "Ample" Arthur Cartwright
11.15 The Mahaffys. Part one of Karl MacDermott's six-part comedy set in small-town Ireland. With Pauline McLynn and Jonathan White
11.30 Life, Death and Sex with Mike and Sue. A five-part comedy series by Bill Dare. Starring Robert Duncan and Julia Hills (r)
12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book: The Information. William Nighy reads Martin Amis's novel. Abridged by Neville Teller (3/15) (r)
12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO** MW 1053, 1089.
Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

هكذا من الاصل

Could bacon really have been Shakespeare?

REVIEW

Matthew Bond

Dick King-Smith likes pigs. Not just the token gratitude that the creator of *Babe* might feel towards the animal that made him a millionaire, but really likes them. And he thinks they are smart: "Inside that skull, there's a sentient being looking back and thinking 'here's an odd looking cove'."

Another odd-looking cove, Professor Stanley Curtis, of Penn State University, likes pigs too, and his aim in life is to go one better, not just to believe that pigs are intelligent, but to prove it. That task was the subject of last night's **QED: Move Over Babe!** (BBC1), which, if I may confuse my species briefly, was a veritable puppy-dog of a film, forever rolling on its back and waving its legs in the air in its eagerness to appear appealing.

And, but for a rather precious narration provided by Miriam Margoyles (who was the voice of Fly, the sheepdog, in the movie), it was. Its stars were Hamlet, Omelette and Streaky, names that made you hope that if pigs really are intelligent, they haven't yet mastered sick jokes. Streaky was training to be a sheepdog, while Hamlet and Omelette had just, according to Margoyles, been enrolled as "the first two scholars at pig academy". They were to play computer games: you know, Stymaster, Tank-saw, Dungeons and Troughs, the usual piggy stuff.

Encouraged by chocolate and aided by a joystick specially adapted for porcine snouts, the pigs made rapid progress, rivalling the rival chimpanzees from Atlanta and leaving Lex, the anxious-looking control dog, far behind, stuck for eternity on a canine learning plateau. Why wouldn't they just ask him to fetch it, instead?

Of the two difficult questions prompted by this research, one was asked ("so, do we carry on eating them?") but not answered, while the other (is an ability to play computer games any measure of intelligence, anyway?) was acknowledged only in passing by King-Smith, who confessed he'd never master one in 100 years.

Interestingly, we left both men harbouring the same ambition. Curtis's ultimate goal is to have a conversation with a pig and already he's hard at work, "synthesising the known repertoire of pig vocalisations". Likewise King-Smith: "Perhaps one day a pig might say something to me." Such as: "where's my slice of the royalties, Dick?"

One of the many endearing habits the piggy stars had was snuffling their snouts over the camera lens, a trick they no doubt learnt in Hollywood, where there is a long soft-focus tradition of smearing the lens to help an ageing star hang on to her looks. The reason I mention it is that it was perhaps the only piece of trickery that David Odd, director of photography, didn't use in the final episode of **Touching Evil** (ITV).

I lost count of the number of episodes of *Soldier, Soldier* I sat through thinking that what we really needed was for darkness and a thick fog to descend on Robson Green. But now, having seen my dream realised, I have to confess I was wrong. Let's have the lights on, the blinds up and the smoke machine given back to the people who make pop videos. The blue light should be on the police station, not throughout it.

Style was everything as DI Dave Creegan (Green) went in search of Amathus, his Internet murderer. Case conferences were a succession of flawless speeches, where the slide projector never jammed. Dressing-downs were all shot in profile, just like an old Abba video.

It is tempting to presume that such a surfeit of style masked an absence of content, but with Paul Abbott, the writer, back at the controls there was no chance of that. It was clever, complex (so complex, in fact, I'm still not sure who Amathus actually was) but it was also rather derivative. There were echoes of *Silence of the Lambs* as we discovered that the bodies were being mutilated in a way first used by a prostitute, currently serving umpteen life sentences for murder. The police needed her help. Linda Henry (on day release from *Born to Run*) played Justine, a tart with several spare hearts, no taste for fava beans but an astonishing turn of speed on four-inch heels.

There were echoes, too, of *Reservoir Dogs*, as Kreitman held a gun to Stoker's head and Creegan held a gun to Kreitman's head. Unfortunately Stoker, being in custody, was not holding a gun to anybody's head which, in the game of Mexican stand-off, can be an expensive mistake.

But perhaps most tellingly, there were echoes of *Cracker*, for which Abbott wrote several stories. For in creating the deranged and doomed Kreitman, policeman-turned-vigilante, Abbott had simply given us another Jimmy Beck, the guilt-ridden policeman-turned-rapist played so brilliantly by Lorcan Cranitch. Creegan and Co have already been commissioned for another series, in which I hope the excellent Nicola Walker and Michael Feast get more to and the lights stay on throughout.

Finally, to **EastEnders** (BBC1), where Tony's foray into newspapers is still causing serious pain to every journalist I know. No doubt there are publicans who feel the same way about Peggy, or market-traders who scoff incredulously at Sanjay. But Tony, the intrepid reporter? Last night Simon finally found out about the break-in at the Cobra Club. Tony's improbable response was to seize the moral high ground: "It's my job. It's investigative journalism." Simon, bless him, was unconvinced: "That's how you see yourself, is it: some Fleet Street scumbag in training? It's the poxy *Walford Gazette* and you're the tea-boy." But for the scumbag, my thoughts entirely.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (59839)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (54297)
9.00 Breakfast News Extra (59384)
9.20 Style Challenge (3849568)
9.45 Kilroy (T) (9393655)
10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (79487)
11.00 News and weather (T) (2454617)
11.05 Real Rooms An air of the Caribbean is brought to a Wolverhampton sitting room (7375810)
11.35 The Great Escape (4771094)
12.00 News (T) and weather (1914742)
12.05pm Call My Bluff (5123346)
12.35 Neighbours (4987162)
1.00 News (T) and weather (57384)
1.30 Regional News (T) (15041433)
1.40 The Weather Show (36246452)
1.45 Columbo (r) (T) (8214592)
3.00 Through the Keyhole (9413094)
3.25 Classic Animal Tracks (3243487)
3.30 Playdays (r) (5550094) **3.50** Monster Cafe (r) (3952162) **4.05** The New Yogi Bear Show (r) (2933164) **4.10** Gadget Boy (9206278) **4.35** Out of Tune (r) (T) (6272742) **5.00** Newsround (T) (8994655) **5.10** Blue Peter (T) (7724758)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (230013)
6.00 News (T) and weather (891)
6.30 Regional News Magazine (471)
7.00 Antiques Roadshow Hugh Scully looks back at selected editions from the programme's years on the road (4162)
7.30 Tomorrow's World Includes a report on a new device to detect eye disease and news about a gene that makes people obese (655)
8.00 The National Lottery Live Carol Vorderman presents. Music is provided by Jon Secada (T) (112891)
8.15 Firefighters A behind-the-scenes look at two of Liverpool's busiest fire crews. Tonight, White Watch are called to a fire at the bottom of a railway embankment, where gas cylinders are likely to explode (T) (515094)
8.50 Points of View Viewers' opinions on BBC programmes (T) (735891)
9.00 News (T) and weather (1297)
9.30 Backup When one of three escaped convicts is recaptured, the police operational support team is called in to find the other two (T) (196365)
10.25 The X Files: Sleepless Just before dying, an expert in sleep disorders rings to report a fire. Although the authorities fail to detect any trace of a fire, his body shows signs of having been burnt alive. But his flesh is not charred (r) (T) (519452)
11.10 Parallax View (1974) Political thriller FILM starring Warren Beatty which draws parallels with the Kennedy assassination. Directed by Alan J. Pakula (T) (312452)
12.50am A Professional Gun (1968) with FILM Franco Nero, Jack Palance and Tony Musante. A gunslinger helps to smuggle silver across the American border during the Mexican Revolution, then sets out with another drifter on a trail of robbery and violence. Directed by Sergio Corbucci (978785)
2.30-2.35 Weather (7443817)

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BBC2

6.00am O.U.: Relational Concepts (3518094) **6.25** The Way to Holmes (3600029) **6.50** Ecological Predictions (T) (601758)
7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (T and signing) (1247839)
7.30 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (r) (T) (6155433) **7.55** Activ-8 (T) (3347094) **8.20** Philbert the Frog (r) (8380181) **8.25** Buzzy Bee and Friends (r) (1714365) **8.35** The Record (2997810) **9.00** Lifeschool (3827346) **9.25** The Geography Programme: Last in series (5907433) **9.45** Words and Pictures (4402162)
10.00 Teletubbies (r) (16549) **10.30** Numbertime (4379181) **10.45** Cats' Eyes (4374636) **11.00** Marsalis on Music (44810) **12.00** The Shape of the World (88181)
12.30 pm Working Lunch (15723)
1.00 Lifeschool Extra (23454988) **1.25** Zig Zag (90106471) **1.45** Come Outside (15051810) **2.00** Philbert the Frog (r) (65438574) **2.05** Buzzy Bee and Friends (r) (66888015)
2.10 A-Z of Food (r) (83834346) **2.20** The Mill's Life: Last in series (26051810) **2.50** News (T) (2733471) **2.55** Westminster (9516487) **3.55** News (T) (3323433) **4.00** Blockbusters (3333810) **4.25** Ready, Steady, Cook (3343297) **4.55** Esther: Lively debate about parenting (6500810) **5.25** Today's the Day (7638907) **5.55** Turning Points (r) (182810)
6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (r) (T) (164758)
6.45 The Ren and Stimpy Show (T) (311520)
7.05 CHOICE **The Chair** Peter Mandelson, MP (115568)
7.30 CHOICE **Anxiety Attack** (1/3) Jolyon Jenkins investigates the phenomenon of the health scare (T) (297)

Paxman and finalists (8.00pm)

8.00 CHOICE **University Challenge** Jeremy Paxman chairs the final between Magdalen College, Oxford, and the Open University (T) (1452)
8.30 Home Front The transformation of Mill Cottage continues (T) (3487)
9.00 CHOICE **Reputations: Bertrand Russell—the Terror of Madness** Concluding the revealing portrait of the philosopher (T) (6013)
10.00 Yes, Prime Minister (r) (T) (89810)
10.28 Video Nation Shorts (364891)
10.30 Newsnight (T) (578365)
11.15 Ruby Chat with Joanna Lumley, Richard E Grant, Alan Davies (803723)
11.55 Weather (359742)
12.00 The Midnight Hour (83850)
12.30am Learning Zone: O.U.: Apples, Risks and Recriminations (T) **1.30** Newton's Revolution (T) **2.00** Teaching Today **4.00** English Heritage **4.30** Unicef in the Classroom **5.00** Basic Skills. Last in series **5.30** Voluntary Matters: Managing People

HTV

6.00am GMTV (9792471)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep (r) (T) (3920487)
9.55 Regional News (T) (4534520)
10.00 The Time, the Place (49425)
10.30 This Morning (65988100)
12.20pm Regional News (10109029)
12.30 News (T) and weather (4086487)
12.55 Shortland Street (4998278) **1.24** HTV Crimestoppers **1.25** Home and Away (T) (90191549) **1.50** Afternoon Live (31555704) **2.20** Vanessa (T) (26055636) **2.50** Afternoon Live (2698655)
3.20 News (T) (3166384)
3.25 Regional News (T) (3165655)
3.30 Alphabet Castle (r) (3976742) **3.40** Tots TV (R) (8822723) **3.50** Oscar and Friends (r) (3328988) **3.55** Sooty and Co (r) (5555549) **4.20** Tiny Toon Adventures (T) (5776810) **4.40** Wavelength: New series (T) (6508452)
5.10 Bagdad Cafe (r) (8881452)
5.40 News (T) and weather (473891)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (464926)
6.25 HTV Weather (703452)
6.30 The West Tonight (T) (839)
7.00 Emmerdale Zoe forces Kim to explain her disappearance to the police (T) (458)
7.30 Coronation Street Rita has shocking news for Bill and the VAT-man drops a bombshell on the Duckworths (T) (723)

Dustin Hoffman stars (8.00pm)

8.00 Accidental Hero (1992) Dustin Hoffman FILM stars as a petty crook who single-handedly rescues the survivors of a plane crash and then disappears, leaving an aimless drifter to take the credit. Also with Geena Davis, Andy Garcia and Joan Cusack. Directed by Stephen Frears (T) Followed by Lottery Result (4891)
10.00 News (T) and weather (83636)
10.30 Regional News (T) (952433)
10.40 The International Match: England v Italy Bob Wilson presents highlights of the Tournoi de France match. Commentary by Brian Moore and Kevin Keegan (766574)
11.40 Tropical Heat (260094)
12.35am Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (7834495)
1.10 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol (2905259)
1.30 Jersey European Open Bowl Championship (77650)
2.00 Tomboy (1985) with Betsy Russell, Jerry FILM Dinome and Kristi Somers. Romantic drama about the relationship that develops between a tomboy garage mechanic and her motor-racing hero. Directed by Herb Freed (837281)
3.35 Not Fade Away (r) (9743563)
4.30 The Time, the Place (r) (59766)
5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (35698)
5.30 News (88105)

CARLTON

As HTV West except:
12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (4998278)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (8881452)
6.25-7.00 Central News (508723)
11.40 Swift Justice (260094)
12.35am Jody Horowitz Reports (1082109)
12.40 Dating the Enemy (9130650)
1.40 Bonkers (2553882)
2.40 The Chart Show (6542969)
3.35 Comedy Central (9743563)
4.30 Central Jobfinder '97 (8283853)
5.20 Asian Eye (4687921)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.55 Home and Away (5100075)
1.20-1.50 Emmerdale (23450162)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8881452)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (27568)
11.40 Swift Justice (260094)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (4998278)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8881452)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (87)
6.29 Pollen Count (703452)
6.30-7.00 Spirit of the South: Waterlines (839)
11.40 The Bottom Line (380452)
12.10am Campus Cops (8750679)
5.00 Freescreen (35698)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (4998278)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (8881452)
6.25-7.00 Anglia News (508723)
11.40 World Weekly News (380452)
12.10 Alfred Hitchcock Presents (8750679)

S4C

Starts: 6.00 Sesame Street (42549)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (47907)
9.00 Bewitched (93013)
9.30 Ysgolion (992723)
12.00 House to House (80549)
12.30pm Ricki Lake (52461)
1.00 Slot Melthrin (10692723)
1.15 Lisabeth (10697278)
1.30 Film: Last Days of Dolwyn (45770013)
3.15 Fresh Pop (1386433)
3.30 Collectors' Lot (617)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (452)
4.30 Dosh (636)
5.00 5Pump (3811568)
5.15 Ffeil (8999100)
5.30 Countdown (988)
6.00 Newyddion (449742)
6.05 Heno (442704)
6.35 Sion a Sian (710742)
7.00 Pobol y Cwm (101365)
7.25 Garej (603162)
8.00 Diwrnod Gyda: Caryl Parry Jones (6520)
8.30 Newyddion (5655)
9.00 Spin City (4907)
9.30 Roseanne (20655)
10.00 Brookside (884278)
10.35 ER (661100)
11.30 Caroline in the City (90159)
12.00am Under the Moon (6990476)

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street The guest is Whoopi Goldberg (r) (42549) **7.00** The Big Breakfast (47907) **9.00** Bewitched (r) (T) (93013)
9.30 Schools: Geography Junction (4409075) **9.45** Step Back (4500788) **10.00** Stage Two: Science (7795177) **10.15** TV — Friend or Foe (1638659) **10.45** SilVO — Is It For You? (7368265) **11.07** Lost Animals (2460275) **11.15** The Mix (1490729) **11.30** Rama-Tal-Tat (4622471) **11.45** Backtracks (4627926) (T)
12.00 House to House Political magazine (80549) **12.30pm** Light Lunch With Magnus Magnusson (14907) **1.30** Lemming Aid (r) (15058723)
1.45 Captain Boycott (1947, b/w) with FILM Stewart Granger and Cecil Parker. Mayo farmers take on a tyrannical British land agent in the 1850s. Directed by Frank Launder (T) (55909723)
3.30 Collectors' Lot *Trace*, the magazine dedicated to stolen antiques, a home replicating a 1930s cinema (T) (617)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One With William G Stewart (T) (452)
4.30 Countdown presented by Richard Whiteley (T) (6266181)
4.55 Ricki Lake Teenage mothers discuss their childhood (T) (5458549)
5.30 Animal Passions John Nettles visits Alexandra Basledo's Sussex farmhouse animal sanctuary (T) (988)
6.00 Party of Five Teen drama (T) (854538)
6.50 Fresh Pop (229100)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (353164)
7.50 Life Stories (622568)
8.00 Brookside Bel has some bad news to break to Ron and Max tries to persuade Susannah to take a break (T) (6520)
8.30 Planet Showbiz Mark Lamarr reports on the American showbiz scene (6/8) (T) (5655)
9.00 Foreign Legion The French Foreign Legion on active service in French Guiana (2/2) (r) (T) (1181)

George Clooney as Ross (10.00pm)

10.00 ER: One More for the Road Last in the current series of the hospital drama. Benton longs to be a father, but will his baby survive? Greene is harassed while on the subway which leads to a shocking reaction. Ross's womanising past catches up with him (T) (1568)
11.00 Friends: The One with Two Parties Rachel's parents turn up unexpectedly on her birthday (r) (T) (9452)
11.30 Roseanne Roseanne and Jackie are besieged by television companies after their lottery win (T) (90159)
12.00 Under the Moon Through-the-night sports magazine featuring Board Stupid at **4.00** and Transworld Sport at **4.30** (6990476)
5.25am-6.00 Backdate (r) (T) (4688150)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a **Videocrypt** decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: **10.92075 GHz**; sound: **7.02** and **7.20 MHz**

6.00am 5 News Early (4602869)
7.30 Havakazoo (3649907) **8.00** Adventures of the Bush Patrol (8858907) **8.30** WideWorld: Who Pays the Piper? How Rossellino created Pienza for Pope Pius II as a memorial to the papacy (8857278)
9.00 Espresso (7541574) **10.00** Exclusive (r) (1744075) **10.30** Fame and Fortune (r) (8860742)
11.00 Leeza (1074810) **11.50** Double Espresso (79799177) **12.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (8851094) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (r) (T) (9816015)
1.00 5 News Update (52019013) **1.05** Sunset Beach (T) (9925549) **2.00** 5's Company (8572549)
3.30 For Love or Money (1984) with Gil FILM Gerrard, Jamie Farr and Suzanne Pleshette. Romantic comedy about a couple who fall in love after appearing on a television show. Directed by Terry Hughes (8029155)
5.30 100 Per Cent (7416029)
6.00 Whittle (T) (7333742)
6.30 Family Affairs Annie is surprised by Maria's emotional outbreak (T) (7324094)
7.00 Exclusive Showbiz news (T) (6560029)
7.30 Flights of Fancy: In Praise of Penguins How penguins adapt to their surroundings (T) (7320278)

Castle Howard (8.00pm)

8.00 The Great Garden Game From the grounds of Castle Howard in Yorkshire. Head gardener Brian Hutchinson shows Clare Bradley some of his professional secrets while the two teams are challenged to create a floral arrangement to decorate Vanbrugh's Temple of the Four Winds which can seen in the grounds (T) (6473549)
8.30 5 News (T) (6485384)
9.00 Family of Strangers (1993) with Melissa FILM Gilbert, Patty Duke and William Shatner. Drama about an adopted woman who uncovers shocking truths while searching for her real family. Directed by Sheldon Larry (99665655)
10.50 Exclusive Extra (1523758)
11.00 The Jack Docherty Show (1257094)
11.40 Tibs and Fibs Medical quiz hosted by Tony Slattery with guests Janet Street-Porter and Niall Ashdown (6400926)
12.10am Live and Dangerous Includes live baseball at **12.30** (92814230)
4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (3637056)
5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (6096489)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday**

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (382617) **9.00** Regis and Kathie Lee (12810) **10.00** Another World (88278) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (91742) **12.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (67100) **1.00pm** Geraldo (43520) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (57810) **3.00** Jenny Jones (50346) **4.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (62181) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (8907) **6.00** Real TV (4297) **6.30** Married — with Children (5549) **7.00** The Simpsons (9636) **7.30** M*A*S*H (4433) **8.00** Beverly Hills 90210 (82433) **9.00** Melrose Place (16687) **10.00** Silk Stalkings (66164) **11.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (86907) **12.00** America's Dumbest Criminals (23292) **12.30am** L.A.P.D. (17143) **1.00** Hit Mix Long Play (1786389)

SKY 2

7.00pm Superboy (4110839) **7.30** Superboy (8617839) **8.00** Renegade (6370433) **9.00** New York Undercover (6390297) **10.00** Water Rats (6393384) **11.00** Late Show with David Letterman (7628810) **12.00** Hit Mix Long Play (2874786)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

SKY MOVIES

6.00am The Girl from Petrovka (1974) (43926) **8.00 The Chairman** (1969) (63201094) **9.45 The 300 Spartans** (1962) (449920) **11.45 Apollo 13** (1995) (84031159) **2.05pm Almost Summer** (1978) (2119907) **3.35 Kaleidoscope** (1966) (687471) **5.30 Rough Diamonds** (1994) (38742) **7.00 Cops and Robbersons** (1994) (78891) **9.00 Apollo 13** (1995) (60966520) **11.20 Sexual Outlaws** (1995) (958278) **1.00am Jailbreakers** (1994) (1591582) **2.20 Fight for Justice: The Nancy Conn Story** (1995) (3723245) **3.50 Before the Night** (1995) (7476192)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Alexander's Ragtime Band (1938) (41568) **8.00 Born to Be Wild** (1995) (46704) **10.00 The Hanging Tree** (1957) (57723) **12.00 The Magic Bubble** (1992) (68655) **2.00pm Mayday at 40,000 Feet** (1976) (94278) **4.00 Peter No Tail in America** (35477758) **5.50 Born to be Wild** (1995) (38405839) **7.30 El Mariachi** (8641) **8.00 Sins of Silence** (1996) (99471) **9.30 Bad Company** (1995) (340029) **11.20 Incident at Deception Ridge** (1994) (107617) **12.55am Three Tough Guys** (1974) (584360) **2.30 Faraway, So Close!** (1993) (44173766) **4.55 Joe and the Kingdom of the Bees** (1972) (3226921)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm Along Came Jones (1945) (23357907) **7.50 Midway** (1976) (27388177) **10.00 The Knays** (1989) (74221297) **12.05am Youngblood** (1986) (3501211) **1.55 I, the Jury** (1982) (5177150) **3.45 Midway** (1976) (12488476)

TNT

9.00pm Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex (1939) (39553836) **11.00 Our Mother's House** (1967) (26455297) **1.00am The Ice Pirates** (1984) (26408921) **3.00-5.00 Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex** (1939) (74476330)

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (18433) **7.30** Wrestling (64452) **8.30** Racing News (21433) **9.00** Tournoi de France (67384) **10.00** Aerobics (90155) **10.30** The Pavilion End (40013) **12.00** Tournoi de France (71926) **1.00pm** Grand Prix Sailing (17704) **1.30** The Lions on Tour (415284) **4.30** Grand Prix Sailing (1988) **5.00** Wrestling (9891) **6.00** Sports Centre (5181) **6.30** Futbol Mundial (6433) **7.00** Live Tournoi de France (120704) **10.00** Sports Centre (33278) **10.30** Motorcycling (57920) **11.30** Golf: European Tour (34599) **12.00** Tournoi de France (93650) **1.00am** Live NBA (8583698) **4.00-4.30** Sports Centre (87259)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Golf: European Seniors (77656742) **1.00pm** Golf Extra (92171839) **3.00** Pool (92537043) **4.00** NHL (63427384) **6.00** Full Throttle Magazine (41508704) **6.30** The Winning Post: Chester and Beverley — Live (78633568) **8.00** Rugby Union: South East Transvaal v British Lions (39556723) **10.00-11.30** World of Super League with Eddie and Stevo (67305568)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Olympic Games Magazine (22636) **8.00** Equestrianism: Nations Cup (85365) **9.00** Football: Toulon Under-21 Cup (52452) **10.00** Swimming: Mediterranean Grand Prix (11520) **11.00** Tennis: French Open — Live (84227758) **7.00pm** Motorsport: Speedworld Magazine (23365) **8.00** Cycling: Tour De France Legends (35549) **10.00** Tennis: French Open Review-Vous (38636) **11.00** Boxing (29549) **12.00-12.30am** Motocross: Kick Magazine (63834)

UK GOLD

7.00am Record Breakers (4113297) **7.35** Neighbours (6126966) **8.00** Crossroads (7360758) **8.25** EastEnders (2507094) **9.00** The Bill (5312487) **9.30** You're Only Young Twice (5712636) **10.00** Duty Free (2383452) **10.30** The Sullivans (5238471) **11.00** Casualty (83700029) **12.05pm** Crossroads (88143839) **12.30** Neighbours (5716452) **1.00** EastEnders (3857810) **1.35** On the Up (2433704) **2.15** Sorry! (9020182) **2.50** It Ain't Half Hot Mum (8374433) **3.30** The Bill (2384617) **4.00** Boon (7774617) **5.00** Generation Game (81046297) **6.05** EastEnders (3850098) **6.40** Sykes (3821015) **7.20** Dr Who (3403346) **7.50** Only When I Laugh (5408094) **8.20** Hi-De-Hi (3345481) **9.00** The Bill (7876029) **9.30** Paradise Club (44844568) **10.35** Sports Anorak of the Year (7534278) **11.05** New Statesman (8623742) **11.40** The Equalizer (9015520) **12.35am FILM: When Eight Bells Toll** (1197389) **2.15** Shopping (64858785)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Box (7864433) **7.00** Coronation St (4385487) **7.30** Families (4291094) **8.00** Surprise, Surprise (3126704) **9.00** The Professionals (6127758) **10.00** The Gentle Touch (4297278) **11.00** London's Burning (4200742) **12.00** Coronation St (8406452) **12.30pm** Families (6507839) **1.00** Second Thoughts (4384758) **1.30** The Good Life Guide (6599810) **2.00** Surprise Surprise (8047907) **3.00** The Gentle Touch (7851636) **4.00** The Professionals (7863471) **5.00** London's Burning (2739636) **6.00** Families (8834487) **6.30** Coronation St (8752839) **7.00** The Gentle Touch (2193075) **8.00** The Professionals (2102723) **9.00** Coronation St (7869655) **9.30** The Comedians (6587075) **10.00-11.00** London's Burning (2192346)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Mouse Tracks (9119810) **6.25** Quack Attack (9105617) **6.50** Bonkers (4120013) **7.15** Little Mermaid (6442936) **7.40** Aladdin (9245384) **8.05** Quack Pack (3787471) **8.30** Goof Troop (87013) **9.00** Care Bears (3520704) **9.25** Under the Umbrella Tree (3549839) **9.50** Muppet Babies (6435891) **10.15** Grounding Marsh (1448029) **10.40** Sing Me a Story (8019487) **11.05** Microscope Milton (9831181) **11.10** Big Garage (8475075) **11.25** Pooh Corner (2271568) **11.55** Fraggle Rock (1819617) **12.20pm** Mouse Tracks (3113348) **12.45** Timon and Pumbaa (98708891) **1.00** Boy Meets World (82116100) **1.25** Bonkers (36650655) **1.50** Quack Pack (52407704) **2.15** Aladdin (89729075) **2.40** Care Bears (9626520) **3.00** Little Mermaid (1897443) **3.25** Timon and Pumbaa (6381320) **3.40** Goof Troop (2050075) **4.30** Everyday's a Chopsaday (7758) **5.00** Aladdin (7503520) **5.25** Timon and Pumbaa (9443549) **5.35** Mighty Ducks (108075) **6.00** New Doug (5723) **6.30** Boy Meets World (6075) **7.00** Brotherly Love (3902) **7.30 FILM: A Horse for Danny** (12278) **9.00-10.00** Touched by an Angel (73723)

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Theo Little Ghosts (2946100) **6.30** Inspector Gadget (5341839) **7.00** Samurai Pizza Cats (7619162) **7.30** Power Rangers Zeo (7638297) **8.00** Bonsbons (9388520) **8.30** Crocadoo (9387891) **9.00** Rimba's Island (5346810) **9.20** Magic Box (5729742) **9.45** Dudley the Dragon (9157891) **10.05** Rimba's Island (1774013) **10.25** Magic Box (9552839) **11.00** Jin Jin (9516723) **11.30** Pinocchio (9517452) **12.00** Inspector Gadget (9398907) **12.30pm** VR Troopers (7772810) **12.50** Power Rangers Zeo (77715346) **1.10** Beetleborgs (25330520) **1.30** Eek (1705556) **2.00** Life with Louie (4109723) **2.30** Crocadoo (8696346) **3.00** Gadget Boy (4291758) **3.30** Eek (8691891) **4.00** Life with Louie (8610926) **4.30** Power Rangers Zeo (8609810) **5.00** Beetleborgs (4190075) **5.30** Spiderman (8690162) **6.00** X Men (8697075) **6.30-7.00** Goosebumps (8611655)

TCC

6.00am Road to Avonlea (55075) **7.00** Dennis the Menace (25384) **8.00** Batman (68988) **8.30** Art Attack (63487) **9.00** Flash Gordon (81839) **9.30** Bobby's World (90029) **10.00** Creepy Crawlers (18093) **10.30** Robinson Sucroe (70723) **11.00** Danger Mouse (39891) **11.30** Gravedale High (30520) **12.00** Oscar's Orchestra (61075) **12.30pm** Halfway Across the Galaxy and Turn Left (98617) **1.00** Molly (45100) **1.30** The New Adventures of Black Beauty (97988) **2.00** The Girl from Tomorrow (2520) **2.30** Ocean Girl/Sea (7568) **3.00** Flash Gordon (16651) **3.30** Batman (2013) **4.00** The Big Deal (1520) **4.30-5.00** Art Attack (7704)

Bette Davis and Errol Flynn (TNT, 9.00pm)

CARTOON NETWORK

Non-stop cartoons from **5.00am** to **9.00pm**. Includes Tom and Jerry, Popeye and The Flintstones

NICKELODEON

6.00am Count Duckula (56278) **6.30** Rocko's Modern Life (86617) **7.00** Hey, Arnold! (16075) **7.30** Rugrats (28310) **8.00** Doug (20704) **8.30** Arthur (29075) **9.00** Children's BBC (43655) **9.30** Children's BBC (56617) **10.00** Wallace's House (12377) **10.30** Babar (49839) **11.00** Magic School Bus (91617) **11.30** Mr Men/Little Miss and Maria Barnby/Buzzies Library/Bod/Jambo (92346) **12.00** Bananas in Pyjamas (23891) **12.30pm** The Busy World of Richard Scarry (50439) **1.00** Children's BBC (15346) **1.30** Children's BBC (59764) **2.00** The Wubbulous World of Dr Seuss (4346) **2.30** Arthur (2094) **3.00** Alvin and the Chipmunks (6181) **3.30** Bruno the Kid (4839) **4.00** Hey, Arnold! (3346) **4.30** Rugrats (5756) **5.00** Sister Sister (8926) **5.30** Ronan and Kel (6816) **6.00** Alex Mack (3723) **6.30-7.00** Doug (4475)

TROUBLE

12.00 Heartbreak High (5720655) **1.00pm** Madison (3573655) **1.30** Sweet Valley High (5700891) **2.00** Hangtime (9652704) **2.30** California Dreams (2307568) **3.00** Byker Grove (9671839) **3.30** Blast (2202013) **4.00** Sweet Valley High (2381526) **4.30** Hangtime (2387704) **5.00** Saved by the Bell (9678384) **5.30** California Dreams (2301384) **6.00** Byker Grove (2308297) **6.30** Madison (2399649) **7.00-8.00** Heartbreak High (6770013)

BRAVO

8.00pm The New Twilight Zone (9672568) **8.30** Twisted (9651075) **9.00** The Burning Zone (6776297) **10.00** Tour of Duty (6779384) **11.00 FILM: Blood Beast Terror** (2152100) **1.00am** The Burning Zone (8068230) **2.00** Tour of Duty (4048940) **3.00 FILM: Stardust** (2091921) **5.00** Starsky and Hutch (1353318)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Roseanne (8162) **7.30** Roseanne (6487) **8.00** Entertainment UK (7810) **8.30** Almost Perfect (9617) **9.00** Cheers (34061) **9.30** Cybill (70297) **10.00** Frasier (24520) **10.30** Monty Python's Flying Circus (40568) **11.00** Comedy Store (6797723) **11.25** Robin (582094) **11.30** Nightstand (13723) **12.30am** Sledgehammer (60259) **1.00** Cheers (93747) **1.30** Cybill (32124) **2.00** Entertainment UK (54921) **2.30** Comedy Store (73056) **3.00** Frasier (72281) **3.30-4.00** Almost Perfect (64308)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Sightings (8406907) **9.00 FILM: Vamp** (8408094) **11.00 FILM: Megazone 23** (24266568) **1.00am** The Twilight Zone (3673501) **1.30** One Step Beyond (2473476) **2.00** Friday the 13th (8774872) **3.00-4.00** Dark Shadows (2880940)

HOME & LEISURE

9.00am Joy of Painting (5310029) **9.30** Garden Calendar (5710278) **10.00** Hooked on Fishing (2391094) **10.30** Room Service (5236013) **11.00** Painted House (7781907) **11.30** The Old House (7782636) **12.00** Just for Starters (5227365) **12.30pm** Sweet Things (5714094) **1.00** Graham Kerr (3659029) **1.30** Home Again with Bob Vila (5713365) **2.00** Hometime (9655278) **2.30** Furniture on the Mend (2303742) **3.00** Our House (9677013) **3.30-4.00** The Old House (2488487)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm The Extremists (2394094) **4.30** Top Marques II (2390278) **5.00** Time Travellers (9752758) **5.30** Justice Files (2487758) **6.00** Wild at Heart (2304471) **6.30** Wild Things (2995723) **7.00** Beyond 2000 (9669094) **7.30** Disaster (2391907) **8.00** Arthur C Clarke's World of Strange Powers (9678742) **8.30** The Quest (9664549) **9.00** Secrets of the Psychics (6773471) **10.00** The Great Egyptians (6855758) **11.00** Warriors (3563278) **12.00** First Flights (5223704) **12.30am** Wars in Peace (7529501) **1.00** Disaster (2788698) **1.30-2.00** Beyond 2000 (6385762)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Weapons at War (7569029) **5.00** Moon Shot (1642723) **6.00** The Middle East: 1956-1991 (3962297) **7.00-8.00** Biography: Pocahontas (8693487)

CHALLENGE TV

Win with **Prize Time** twice an hour
5.05pm Cross W

RACING 47
Ryan picks up plum Derby ride on Benny The Dip

SPORT

RUGBY UNION 49
Lions look to Jenkins to bring back running game

Unsettled Sheringham finds ally in Ince

Sheringham: wants move

FROM OLIVER HOLT
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT
IN NANTES

IF THE theme of England's early summer is, indeed, to be one of recovery and revival after adversity, Teddy Sheringham followed it to the letter here yesterday. His afternoon started with him having to explain away an incident with a fire extinguisher and ended with the promise that his talents were about to be recommended to one of Europe's most ambitious clubs.

Sheringham, who has been one of the pivotal figures in leading England back from the disappointment of losing to Italy at Wembley in February to a position of relative strength in their World Cup qualifying campaign, trained with the rest of the squad in the Stade de la Beaujoire as they prepared for their opening game in the Tournoi de France, against Italy, tonight.

After Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, insisted that English confidence was so high after their morale-boosting victory in Poland on Saturday that he would persist with his intention of experimenting against England's World Cup group two rivals tonight — even though Italy are likely to field a full-strength team — all eyes turned to Sheringham.

Once he had shrugged off questions about a hotel room that he was supposed to have inflicted minor damage on a few weeks ago as "a joke and a laugh", Sheringham confirmed that he had submitted a written transfer request to Tottenham Hotspur after the breakdown of negotiations with Alan Sugar, the club chairman.

Sugar said later that he had accepted the request and that he would be "happy to see him go", a sentiment unlikely to be shared by many of the Tottenham supporters and that was distinctly at odds with the praise lavished on Sheringham by Hoddle and Paul Ince, the Internazionale midfield player.

Ince has had such a fine season that Massimo Moratti, the Inter president, is desperate to hang on to him, and Ince hinted that a move for Sheringham, allied to Inter's approaching £50 million capture of Ronaldo, the Brazil striker, could help to persuade him to stay. "I've only just heard about Teddy's situation," Ince said, "but he is a very clever and intelligent player and I admire him a lot. Of course I am going to mention it to Moratti. We are probably only three players away from having a championship-winning team at Inter and, if we could get Ronaldo and Sheringham, that would be two of them."

TEAM

ENGLAND (probable, 3-5-2): T Flowers (Blackburn Rovers) — J Scales (Tottenham Hotspur), G Southgate (Aston Villa), S Campbell (Tottenham Hotspur) — P Neville (Manchester United), D Batty (Newcastle United), D Beckham (Manchester United), P Ince (Internazionale), G Le Saux (Blackburn Rovers) — E Sheringham (Tottenham Hotspur), I Wright (Arsenal).

Sheringham, 31, who may be rested against Italy, was also linked yesterday with a move to Newcastle United, which would allow him to reprise his successful England partnership with Alan Shearer at club level. The sticking point may be Tottenham's valuation of Sheringham, which is thought to be close to £6 million. Sheringham calmly made it clear that he was upset over the way that Sugar had handled the haggling over his new contract, but admitted that he had been mulling over the possibility of a move for some time.

"They offered me a new contract last week and then withdrew it," Sheringham said. "Apparently, it was because I had not got back to the chairman within 48 hours to give him my decision. Considering that was during the build-up to England's match with South Africa, I did not think that was right. He did not even say there was only 48 hours to consider it, but he told me four days later that that was his custom.

"I just feel it is probably the right time for me to have a new challenge. I am disappointed that I have not been challenging for honours because top players want to play at the top level. It is too early to say now, but I am hoping there will be plenty of interest."

Hoddle, whose opportunities to experiment may be hampered by niggling injuries to Andy Cole, David Beckham, Robert Lee and Paul Gascoigne, is likely to play Beckham in the central midfield position that many people feel is his natural home, if he is fit. Philip Neville may also start the match as a right-sided wing back or full back if Hoddle tries a 4-4-2 formation.

"I am not too worried about focusing on the opponents," Hoddle said. "If Italy want to put out a full-strength team, that is up to them. To win and get off to a flier in this tournament would be smashing, but we have got to look at things that are going to help us if we get to the World Cup next year. We have got to take the chains off for this one."

Ince, who has had to suffer the taunts of his team-mates since England's defeat to Italy, was more bullish about the prospect of facing them again and trying to achieve England's first win over them since 1977. "Before the game against Poland," he said, "I felt we had become a divided nation. Half the people did not believe we were going to go to Poland and win or that we could get to the World Cup. Now we have got the whole nation behind us and everybody believes in us.

"The Italians would have been absolutely gutted by our result in Poland. They would have been thinking that, because they only got a draw there, there was no way we could get a win. They would have been choking on their spaghetti and I wish I had been there to see it."

Anxious Maldini 48
Liverpool go shopping 48
O'Neill's new contract 48

Graf eliminated on day of drama

Coetzer unveils power to put out champion

FROM ROB HUGHES IN PARIS

FRENCH Open champions fell like drops of rain here yesterday. On another dramatic, beguiling and competitive afternoon, Steffi Graf succumbed in straight sets, 6-1, 6-4, to the bounding, diminutive South African, Amanda Coetzer; and within the hour Yevgeni Kafelnikov, the Russian holder of the men's title, had lost his five-set battle with the Brazilian 20-year-old, Gustavo Kuerten.

If Kuerten is the wonder of this tournament, this wildly fluctuating tennis championship, then it was Coetzer who yesterday had the whole essence of what was happening before our eyes spelt out.

She came off the court into the interview room wearing a white T-shirt, on which she had written "Power is nothing". And then she turned around, and on the back she had scrawled "without control".

Power without control, indeed. Little Miss Coetzer, 5ft 2in, had the measure of Graf, the most powerful and dominating presence on the female court with 21 grand-slams tournaments, including the last two on this Parisian red clay, to her credit. Very few have known the pinnacle that Graf fell from yesterday, or ever will. It is premature to suggest that the end is nigh for someone still so apparently obsessed with her sport, still not quite 28.

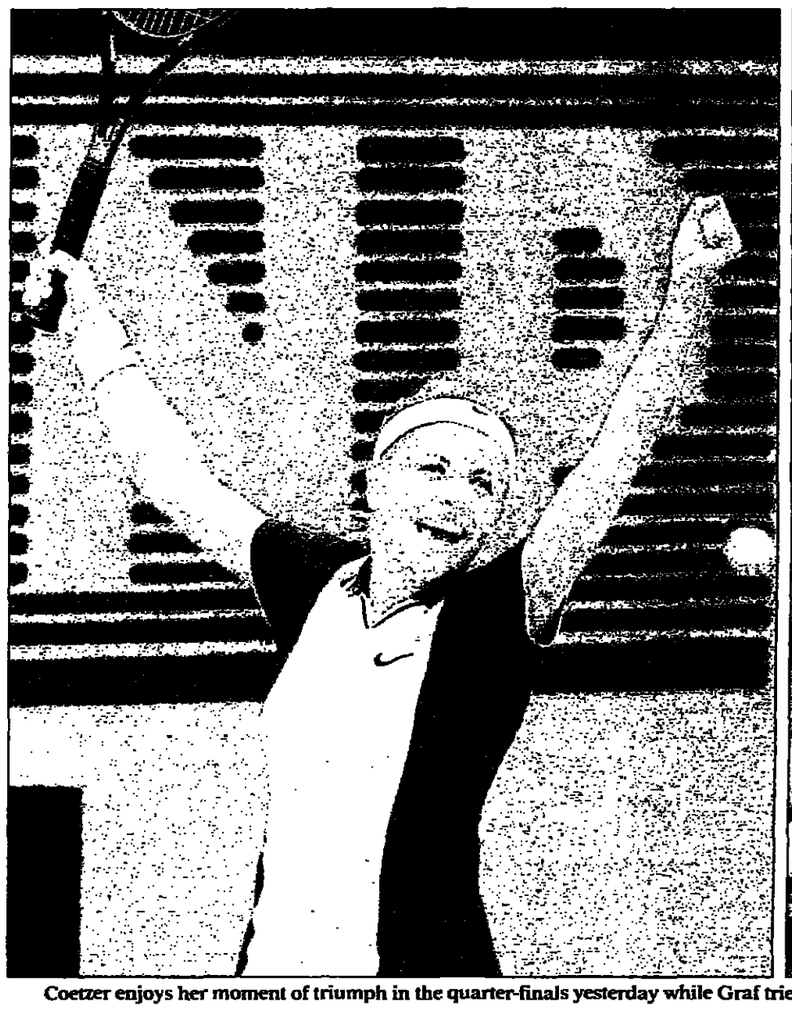
Yet, coming back from a knee tendon injury, coming back to her court after a three-month absence, Graf had been overwhelmed by Coetzer, 6-0, 6-1, in Berlin last month. She knew the portent, and she spoke before the match of dictating the pace, of not allowing Coetzer into her baseline consistency.

"The main thing will be patience, with aggressiveness at the same time," Graf had forecast. Some two hours later, the German seemed quite bemused by her own inefficiency. Broken in her first service game, she was later to admit: "I made a really nervous start, I felt very uncomfortable, unsure of my shots. I didn't seem to find the reach or the patience at all."

Graf is so used to winning, so used to interviews on her terms, that she really exudes, on her rare off-days, a sense of worthlessness. It is as if all her achievements were not up there on the plaques, in the record books, in the bank.

What made it even more surprising was that a rain shower offered Graf a reprieve when she trailed 3-1 in the second set. The thousands packed into the Suzanne Lenglen court had grown solemn and silent, but now they wondered whether Graf could at least make a contest of it.

Alas, even as the rain came down, this struggling champion could not convince herself that there was hope or reason. She returned to at least engage Coetzer in lengthy rallies, but so seldom did she bring her opponent to the net, where Coetzer is vulnerable, that inevitably the stray shots came from the Graf racket.



Coetzer enjoys her moment of triumph in the quarter-finals yesterday while Graf tries to come to terms with the rare experience of defeat

Next for Coetzer is Iva Majoli, the Croatian who eliminated her own doubles partner, Ruxandra Dragomir, of Romania, 6-3, 5-7, 6-2 in almost 2½ hours, the first grand-slam semi-final for Majoli.

The other women's semi-final will be between Monica Seles who, determination personified, outlasted Mary Jo Fernandez in three sets, and Martina Hingis, who ran away with her quarter-final, 6-2, 6-2, against Arantxa Sánchez Vicario.

What of the men? Kuerten still laughs like a schoolboy and lasts like a man. He has seen off Thomas Muster, Andrei Medvedev and now Kafelnikov, each time over five sets. Yet Kuerten was on the rack against the champion from Russia when he trailed by two sets to one. Kafelnikov admits he allowed his concentration to wander. "To be honest, when I won the third set, I felt the thing was going to come much, much easier," he said.

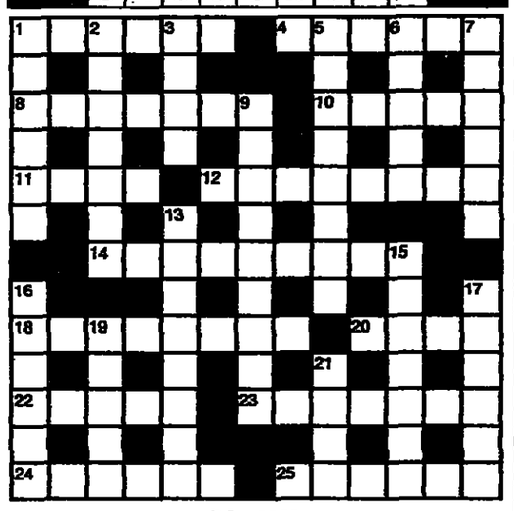
Kafelnikov spent an awful long time wandering. The Brazilian flowed with his marvellous groundstrokes, swift and fluid, striking forehands and, less often, backhands with remarkable vision and accuracy from all angles.

Next in line for Kuerten is Filip Dewulf, the first Belgian semi-finalist at Roland Garros for almost 40 years. Dewulf eliminated Magnus Norman, of Sweden, in four sets. Norman needed heavy strapping on a thigh injury and also felt pain in his shoulder but fitness is part of preparation and Dewulf has come through three qualifying rounds to claim his place alongside Philippe Washer and Jacky Brichant, who in 1957 and 1958 were semi-finalists here.

Happiness at Roland Garros is to ignore pain, to erase doubt, to mix patience with striving ambition.

Results, page 45

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1111

ACROSS
1 Compel acceptance of (6)
4 Much loved (6)
8 (TV show) given experimental showing (7)
10 Permitted (5)
11 Italian currency (4)
12 Non-sexual (affair) (8)
14 Spiteful (9)
18 Hot Med. winds (8)
20 Operatic solo (4)
22 Number: finger (5)
23 Drug group: *editors (anag.)* (7)
24 Wet through (6)
25 Borneo sultanate (6)

DOWN
1 Transfix, pin (6)
2 Holy traveller (7)
3 Locus (4)
5 A making weaker (8)
6 A poison, seen in *sugar icing* (5)
7 Notice, discover (6)
9 Lovely to taste (9)
13 (Event) at which to wear DJ (5-3)
15 A prime beef cut (7)
16 Remarks not for overhearing (6)
17 Three assassinated Indian leaders (6)
19 Inelastic (5)
21 River dam (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1110
ACROSS: 1 Touch-and-go 7 Twister 8 Mimic 10 Coterie 11 Bloom 12 Sombre 15 Camera 17 Ibsen 18 Upbraid 21 Leash 22 En route 23 Sacrosanct

DOWN: 1 Taint 2 Utter 3 Hornet 4 Namibia 5 Gamboge 6 Stock-still 9 Commandeer 13 Mascara 14 Rancher 16 Rubens 19 Boron 20 Adult

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD 1106
In association with BRITISH MIDLAND
ACROSS: 3 Queen Mab 7 Mau Mau 8 Conker 9 Parson 10 Gorgon 11 Trad 13 Ferry 15 Adds 17 Trudge 18 Prompt 19 Header 20 Lieder 21 Duty-free

DOWN: 1 Bazaar 2 Amused 3 Quinine 4 Economy 5 Make good 6 Baroness 11 Thatched 12 Adjutant 13 Fig leaf 14 Rumpole 15 Avowed 16 Duplex

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Taylor receives Waugh's backing

BY RICHARD HOBSON

WITHIN hours of the latest and most strident criticism of him from a previous Australia captain, Mark Taylor yesterday received the unequivocal backing of the man being groomed as his successor should he heed the advice of Ian Chappell and fall on his sword.

Any suggestion of growing division within the tour party was dispelled, publicly at least, when Steve Waugh, the vice-captain, confirmed Taylor as a certain starter in the first Cornhill Test, which starts at Edgbaston tomorrow, and proceeded to speak glowingly of the captain's ability to play under pressure.

Waugh's manner was as interesting as anything that he said. Not generally regarded as one of the happiest in dealing with the press, he mixed freely among those brandishing microphones and notebooks after Australia had completed their first practice session. At one point, he even implored journalists to come closer if they wished to hear his words.

"We have said that Mark will play in advance so we will not get asked the question 3,000 times and can talk about something else," Waugh said. "Because his form has been down, people have been on his back, which is understandable, but the fact is that he has scored 14 centuries and clearly knows how to play Test cricket."

Earlier, Chappell had said on the *Today* programme on BBC Radio 4 that Taylor was the wrong appointment as captain for the tour and described the selection panel, somewhat brutally, as the worst he could remember.

Yesterday, Taylor caused some consternation when he issued an edict that press and photographers would not be allowed inside the nets area at the ground in Birmingham. He is known, though, to be far happier within himself after the half-century that he made against Derbyshire at the weekend, an innings that realistically removed any doubt over his participation here.

In contrast, the England camp exuded nothing but sweetness and light. David Lloyd, the coach, believes that, after the 3-0 victory in the Texaco Trophy, "the country has a spring in its step". The squad has been reduced to 12, Phil Tufnell having been released in time for him to appear for Middlesex against Leicestershire in the county championship today.

Warwickshire had 300 tickets remaining for the first day's play yesterday morning. The ground is sold out to its capacity of 19,000 on Friday and Saturday. If it seems surprising that an Ashes series may begin in front of anything less than a full house, then there is another statistic that some may feel is even odder.

Twelve thousand tickets have been sold for Sunday, a significant show of faith given that the past two Tests at the ground have been completed on the third day and before lunch on the fourth, respectively.

The club has been told that it faces the possibility of losing its Test status unless there is a marked improvement in the pitch and Steve Rouse, the groundsman, acknowledged that he felt under "tremendous pressure".

Drugs ban for Smith

PAUL SMITH, the former Warwickshire all-rounder, was yesterday banned from professional cricket for 22 months for taking cocaine.

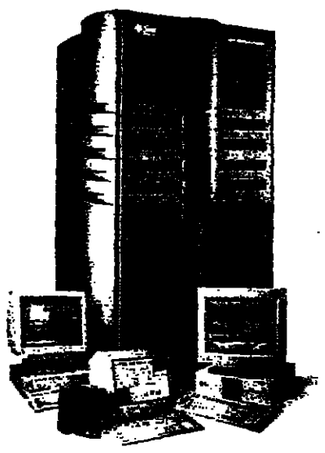
Smith appeared before the England and Wales Cricket Board disciplinary committee and was found guilty of taking an illegal substance while playing as a county cricketer.

Smith, 33, left Warwickshire last summer after a 15-year career in which he scored 8,173 runs and took 283 wickets. He was contracted to play for Shropshire this season but was suspended after an article about his drug taking appeared in a Sunday newspaper.

Smith said: "I had a very fair hearing, that's not to say that I didn't find the verdict harsh."

Photograph, page 46
Waugh at peace, page 46
ITC latest, page 49

MORSE



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